THE

HISTORY

OF THE

Intrigues & Gallantries

OF

CHRISTINA,

Queen of *Sweden.*

AND

Of her COURT, whilst she was at *ROME.*

Faithfully Render'd into English, *from the* French *Original.*

LONDON,
Printed for *Richard Baldwin*, at the Oxford-Arms in Warwick-Lane, 1696.

To his Excellency

CHARLES

EARL OF

Dorset and *Middlesex*,

One of the Lords Justices for the Administration of the Government, during the King's Absence. Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, *&c.*

My LORD,

THE *Queen of* Sweden, *who travell'd so much, and spoke so many Languages, being now the Subject of this present History, implores your Lordship's*

Protection, having but newly learn'd to speak English: She comes not now as formerly, in the Pomp and Splendor of a Crown, but to render an Account of her Actions, which in her Life-time, made so mighty a noise in the World; and which, tho' they cannot be called altogether Innocent, are yet very diverting, and will, I question not, afford a great deal of Pleasure and Delight to the Reader; there being no Tragedy in her whole Life, except that of the Murder of the Marquis Monaldeschi.

She always maintain'd the Majesty of a Queen, both in her Person and Character, to the highest Degree; and her Wit and Parts were so very extraordinary, that they

they raised the Admiration of all. Her Inclinations were nice and curious, and her Passions strong and violent; but the Vanity and Inconstancy of her Temper, would not suffer them to endure long; and she had none of any Continuance, except that which she had for Chymistry, which lasted even to her dying Day. The great Opinion she had conceived of her own Abilities in all things, did very much contribute to the Cheat, she put upon her self in this Affair, and caus'd her to be led by those wandring Experimentators, who being deceiv'd themselves, make no scruple to deceive others. The Author has handled them very severely, and some of them no less than they de-

ſerve, and eſpecially ſuch as thoſe, the *Queen of* Sweden *generally met with.*

In ſhort, as ſhe was a Princeſs of a wonderful mixture, and ſtrange variety, there is ſomething to be found in every turn of her Actions, ſo great and ſurprizing, that there needs more than a common Underſtanding, to make a right Judgment concerning her. She *cannot therefore be recommended to a fitter Hand than your Lordſhip's, not only in regard of the Greatneſs of your Deſcent and Original, but of your Candor, and good Humour, together with the Excellency of your Parts, and that Exactneſs of Judgment, for which you are ſo juſtly celebrated.*

The

The Author of this History, spends a great deal of time, in describing the Persons that compos'd her Court, and their Adventures are so interwoven with the Queens Affairs, that he could not avoid it; but both the Characters, and Adventures are so pleasant, that they make a sufficient Recompence; and indeed the History would not have been compleat without it. They are fill'd up with a great number of Delightful Intrigues, and odd Circumstances, and most of the Accidents are so entertaining, that I perswade my self that your Lordship, who is so Communicative and Generous upon all Occasions, will permit me to make use of so great a Name, to recommend this

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Tranſlation to them, who cannot, with your Lordſhip, diſcern the Beauties of the Original, and will pardon the Ambition, with which I ſubſcribe my ſelf,

My LORD,

Your Lordſhip's

Moſt Dutiful

and Obedient Servant,

Phil. Hollingworth.

TO

TO THE

READER.

A *French Abbot*, of great Merit and Understanding, returning from *Rome*, with the *French* Cardinals, from the Election of *Innocent* XII. shewed me some curious Manuscripts, which he had obtain'd during his stay in *Italy*; and among others, this of the Intrigues and Gallantries, of *Christina* Queen of *Sweden*, and her Court, while she staid at *Rome*. I presently became of his Opinion, and judg'd them worthy of the Press, believing it would be a pleasure to the Publick, to communicate the particular Circumstances of the Life

Life of this incomparable Queen, which none till this present time have had any knowledge of. If this Work be received well, as I hope it will, I will afterward Print the Maxims and Sentences of this Queen, which have the force and Spirit of those of the Duke *de Rochefoucaults*, as also the *Conclaves* of the last *Popes*, differing very much from those already Printed, and other curious *Munuscripts* which do well deserve to appear in Publick.

Though I have not seen this Work, but in the *French* Language, yet the Gentleman who gave it me, assures me, that the Original was *Italian*, and found among other Papers of the Author, who died at *Rome*, a little before the Abbot who brought it, came from thence. One may easily see that it is nothing but a Translation, by many Words and improper Phrases, which are not

French

French; but I hope the Reader, will have the Goodneſs to excuſe it, and content himſelf with the Truth, ſeeing he may be ſure to find it here, without the leaſt Diſguiſe or Deceit. More time will be requiſite, to finiſh the other *Manuſcripts* which are preparing, and will be publiſhed quickly after this Work; whoſe Author was one of Queen *Chriſtina*'s Officers, and of ſufficient Eſteem and Credit with her, to have had a ſhare in her Secrets. It will be ſeen clearly enough in the reading of the Hiſtory, though he endeavours to perſuade us, that he was never in her Service. Flattery has no part in his Writing, as may be found by his Complaints againſt Cardinal *Azzolini*, and oftentimes againſt the Queen her ſelf, who committed all to his Eminence, without leaving any thing, for her Domeſticks to do. And it may be ſeen, that the Affection, which he has

has for his Miſtreſs, makes him often ſpare her, without revealing all thoſe ill things, which he very well knew; and could eaſily have given an Account of.

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THE HISTORY OF THE *Intrigues and Gallantries* OF *CHRISTINA* Queen of *SWEDEN*, and of her Court, whilſt ſhe was at *ROME.*

ROME which is the Centre of Religion, is alſo the Theatre of the fineſt Comedies in the World: And there did Queen *Chriſtina* behave her ſelf with ſo agreeable a Demeanor, that I believe it will

very much contribute to the Diverſion of the Publick, without ſhocking the Majeſty ſhe always upheld, if I give an *Idea* or Deſcription of her particular Actions, and to her Heroick ones, add certain little Enjoyments, which are not to be accounted altogether ill, in a Perſon who had quitted a Throne for a private Life, that ſhe might give her ſelf a little more liberty. The Great Ones have their Frailties as well as the leſs; and when we conſider them only, in the Splendor wherewith they are ſurrounded, Vice paſſes oftentimes for Vertue: But when we bring them to a narrower Examination, we ſhall eaſily diſcover thoſe great Paſſions, which make them ſet all their Engines at work to ſatisfie them. Hiſtory which flatters not, renders Juſtice to all, becauſe ſhe ſpeaks nothing but what Truth ſuggeſts. 'Tis Truth which brings all things to Light, and without it we know nothing certain. She appears in all her Simplicity in the Hiſtory of the retired Life of *Chriſtina Alexandra*, Queen of *Sweden*, and of the *Goths* and *Vandals*. There is enough ſaid there to inform the Curious, and ſhew the Frailties which appeared in the private Life of a Princeſs,

who

who in her publick one demonſtrated ſo much Greatneſs of Soul. Her Hiſtory is writ by too many Authors of different Nations and Languages to make mention of in this place. They all agree in Matters of Fact, and we may follow them without any ſcruple. But ſeeing they have ſpoke nothing of the ſecret Intrigues of this Princeſs, known only to her Domeſticks, we queſtion not but that it will oblige the Publick to communicate theſe Memoirs; and we ſhall here find that Princes do eaſily impoſe upon us, and what is oftentimes attributed to Policy, is yet nothing elſe but the Effect of irregular Paſſion.

Chriſtina Alexandra has perhaps been the Princeſs, who has moſt of all impoſed on us, and made her ſelf moſt talk'd of in the World. She knew ſo well to aſſert a certain Character of Greatneſs in her whole Perſonage that ſhe charmed all Mankind. Her Wit cauſed Admiration in all who were able to comprehend it; and certain Graces ſparkled in her Face, which cauſed Love in all that view'd them: Nevertheleſs ſhe had more agreeableneſs in the one than the other; and her extraordinary Qualities hindred

People from reflecting upon the real Defects of her Perſon. She was a little bent, not to ſay crooked: Her Stature was middle-ſized, inclining to be fat; and yet ſhe was at a reaſonable ſtand as to that Point: Her Complexion was the fineſt in the World: Her Eyes were beautiful aud ſparkling; her Lips red; ſhe had good Teeth, and an Aquiline Noſe; her Neck and Hands white, tho' ſhe never waſh'd them in any thing but cold Water. Beſides theſe Excellencies of her Sex, which made her a Beauty in her own Nature, ſhe had ſome of the beſt Qualities of ours, ſuch as Courage and Undauntedneſs, with an admirable knowledge of moſt things; a great dexterity in the Conduct of the weightieſt Affairs, as alſo of the moſt curious. And in a word, ſhe had almoſt all the choiceſt Qualifications of both Sexes. The greatneſs of her Wilt, the facility of her Genius, the exactneſs of her Thoughts, the delicacy of her Expreſſions, and laſt of all a prodigious Memory, which made things paſt appear as preſent: All theſe rare Talents ſhould I ſay, or rather all theſe extraordinary Qualities did ſo aſtoniſh all that approach'd her, that they were not capable of attending any other

other thing. And yet those who would not suffer themselves to be so easily led away without a nicer Inspection, could find considerable Faults in her, how great and transcendent soever her Wit were. She so much loved her Pleasure, that she observed no Measures in the taking of it, and would Debase her self so far as to be Familiar with many of her Officers. Her Domesticks, who would take all sorts of Liberty with both Sexes, were sometimes Doubtful of their own, and her greatest Favourites have oftentimes found her Light, Inconstant, Contradictory, and always full of her self; things scarce Supportable even in Princes themselves.

The Greatness of this Princess's Soul manifested it self in the generous laying down of her Crown, and quitting her Kingdoms to *Carolus Gustavus*, Prince Palatine of the *Rhine*. Every Body was Surpriz'd at it, but no one could tell the Causes and Reasons which induc'd her to it: But the Queen, excellently skill'd in the Art of Dissimulation, alledged many, which being very specious, made her the more Esteem'd. For she having Knowledge in History as well as Languages, had read, that some Princes who

had been Crown'd with Glory, but tired with the noiſe of Arms, and the trouble of Royalty, choſe to retreat towards the end of their Lives, into places ſeparate from the Commerce of Mankind, to live a more eaſie and quiet Life. But this Example was not the motive of her Retirement; for ſhe was then in the flower of her Age, and had ſcarce taſted the Pleaſure of Reigning: Nor was it want of Succeſs, which has often been the cauſe of the precipitate Retreat of Princes, fearing to tarnish the glory of their former Actions, by the ſhame of the latter. For Fortune had ſmiled upon our Queen even till that preſent time. Her People were Victorious over their Enemies. She was the Refuge of the Princes of *Europe*, and indeed every thing conſpir'd to make her Fear'd of the one, and Eſteem'd by the other. Notwithſtanding all this, ſhe took the Reſolution of quitting *Sweden*, and advancing the Prince Palatine of the *Rhine*, who was next Heir to the Throne. Her Subjects oppos'd themſelves, and repreſented the miſerable Effects of it; and redoubled the Eſteem and Reſpect which they always had for her Majeſty.

It was noiſed in the World, That ſhe being diſguſted with the *Lutheran* Religion, had a deſign to make Profeſſion of the *Roman Catholick*, which was not agreeable to the Laws of *Sweden*, and that ſhe had rather follow the motives of her Conſcience, than preſerve her Crown. For my part, I ſhould believe with others, that this was the true motive of her Abdication, if ſhe had not afterwards given the Lie to thoſe great things ſhe at firſt had done for God's ſake. But being throughly inform'd in all her Secret Intrigues, I believe that Love, which very often aſcends the Throne with Princes, was the cauſe which made Queen *Chriſtina* Deſcend. She Loved Count *Magnus* of *Gardia* ſo deſperately, who durſt not anſwer her Paſſion, that whereas Kings elſewhere make Queens by Marriage, ſhe endeavour'd to make a King on the ſame manner. But not being able to bring the Eſtates of *Sweden* to Conſent to this, ſhe took ſo great a deſpite at it, that ſhe reſolv'd to live for the future in a Melancholy Single State. However, ſhe had neither inclination nor diſpoſition to paſs the reſt of her days in Retirement, being per-

ſwaded, as ſhe ſaid, that Vertue did not conſiſt in being Severe or Rough; nor in retiring from Humane Society, to ſeek God in the Horrour of Solitude; And that it was the way to draw and collect a Man to himſelf, rather than to Unite him to God. Adding, That ſince there was innocent Diverſion to be had in Society, and that Pleaſures were permitted to the World, one might find God among Men without refuſing them. So that acting upon this fine Principle, ſhe took a reſolution to quit the troubleſome buſineſs of a Crown, that ſhe might give her ſelf up the more entirely to her own Fancies. But withal thinking to improve her Wit by enlightning her Reaſon, ſhe intended to Travel all over *Europe*, for Rules to perfect her Manners, to be built upon the different Maxims of thoſe People among whom ſhe came. All this (joyn'd with the Secret of making her ſelf univerſally talk'd of) was the reaſon of calling in Prince *Carolus Guſtavus* to Reign in her place. However, ſhe reſerved to her ſelf the Revenue of *Pomerania*, and other Eſtates of the Crown of *Sweden*, in *Germany*. Thus ſhe renounc'd her Royal Dignity,

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at 27 Years of Age, *Anno Dom.* 1654. and a little after left *Sweden*, going into *Germany*, which ſhe travers'd almoſt throughout, and when ſhe came to *Inſpruck*, abjur'd her Religion: After which, ſhe went into *Italy*, in the Year 1655. You may eaſily imagne, that ſhe was every where receiv'd with the Honours due to her Quality, without being at the trouble of a particular Recitation. We would willingly have related what paſs'd in her Voyages, if there had been any thiny that would have ſtirr'd up the Curioſity of the Reader, but ſhe muſh have made a longer ſtay in all Cities, to have enter'd upon Intrigues, and therefore this was reſerv'd for *Rome*, where ſhe would be more Eaſie.

Pope *Alexander* the VIIth, who promiſed himſelf great Matters from a Queen who was become a new Convert, gave order to receive and treat her Royally through all the Teritories of the Eccleſiaſtical State, and himſelf gave order for her entry into *Rome*; which came very near to the magnificence of the Triumphs of the Ancient *Romans*; but whether it were that ſhe could not find what ſhe ſought at *Rome*, or whether her Inconſtancy would not ſuffer

ſuffer her to ſtay there for any long time, ſhe departed for *France* in the Year 1657. From whence ſhe hoped to find an eaſie Paſſage for *Engiand*. But *Cromwell* believing it to be done out of Policy, and his Affairs being in a Staggering condition, refuſed to receive into his new Eſtates, ſo unquiet and turbulent a Spirit as was that of the Queen of *Sweden*. However ſhe had found in *France* wherewith to ſatisfie her ſelf for the ſhameful refuſal ſhe had met with in *England*, if ſhe had known how to manage it; for the King, as buſie as he was, to make an end of a Civil War, which had almoſt ruin'd his Kingdom, omitted nothing that might render *France* agreeable to the Queen. And all the Princes after his Example, crowded to Viſit a Princeſs who had obtain'd ſo great a Reputation among among all Nations. The Men of Letters alſo made their Court, as well as the Perſons of Quality, and both the one and the other always departed well Satisfied in the Witty and Learned Converſations they had with her. There was preſently ſome Talk of her Intrigues with certain Princes, whom ſhe had inſpired with Love; but theſe

Amours

Amours were only flying Gallantries, and there was none but the Duke of *Guiſe* that had any Engagements with her for any conſiderable length of time.

This Prince who was as knowing and dextrous in Courtly Qualifications, as skilful in Arms, was choſe by the King to go and receive her upon the Frontiers of *France*. He ſhewed in his Voyage that he had loſt nothing of his good Mein in the Revolution of *Naples*, and that the Edge of his Paſſions were not quite taken off by the Priſon of *Segovia*; for he knew ſo well how to turn all things to his own Advantage, that he quickly entred into the Queen's good Graces. She was her ſelf too well skill'd in Gallantry, not to ſee the Duke's Paſſion through all his Cares, and the great Honours he cauſed to be paid her in all places where ſhe paſs'd. The particular Diſtinction which ſhe made of this Prince, did confirm that it was not reported without a probable appearance, that an Intrigue was form'd in this Voyage. On the other hand, the coldneſs which the Queen ſhew'd to her grand Uſher, whom ſhe had formerly Lov'd, augmented the Suſpicion, and made her Domeſticks believe that the Duke had

had insensibly banish'd the Love of the Marquess *Monaldeschi* out of the Queen's Heart. They were deceiv'd in these Conjectures, as it often happens to those who judge of every thing, without knowing any thing to the Bottom: For it was no new Engagement the Queen had, which made her neglect him, but the indiscreet Conduct of *Monaldeschi*. This *Italian* Gentleman had forgot, it seems, that Policy which makes a particular Character of the People of his Coutry. Some Letters which the Queen had writ to him, fell into his Enemies hands, who sent them into *France* to the Queen. The Cardinal was accused of it, and the Suspicion perhaps was not ill founded. But however it were, the Queen Sacrificed this once admired Love, to the Outrage done to her Honour, without any regard either to the delight she had taken in his Person, or the Laws of the Realm where she then was. This lofty Princess believ'd, that because she was a Queen, she by her own Power, might do her self Justice upon a Person who had discover'd her Weakness; and her Resentment was so great, and so much to the Quick, that she pass'd over

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all Laws, in erecting a kind of Sovereign Tribunal, where he was Condemned, as himself declared to some, without being guilty of any other Crime, than answering to the first Advances that this Princess made to him. This Assassination committed in the Gallery of *Harts*, so called, in the Royal Palace of *Fountain Bleau*, sounded so ill in the World, that the Court could not but disapprove so Inhumane an Action.

Our cruel Lover being come to her self, after she had dipp'd her Hands in the Blood of a Man whom she was often accustom'd to Caress, saw that she now had lost her self in the Esteem of one of the most Splendid Courts of the World, and was also constrained to leave *France*, which was, as she confess'd, the finest and most agreeable part of *Europe*; adding, that *Paris* was the Seat of Pleasures, and the Center of fine Wits. That the Court of *France* was the most Magnificent in all *Europe*; and that there was more Politeness there, than in any other place of the World. However, the Season then, was not at all proper for Intrigues of Love; for although the Capital City was Free and at Ease, all was yet in Confusion upon

upon the Frontiers, and the Nobles were more employ'd to follow *Mars* amidſt the dangers of War, than to proſecute the Pleaſures of *Venus* in the Streets of the Ladies of *Paris*. Well, ſhe went away at laſt, though with much difficulty, which was very happy for her, had ſhe been able by diſtance, to extinguiſh the Reproaches ſhe had juſtly drawn upon her ſelf, by the violent Death of the Marquiſs *Monaldeſchi*. And after all, ſhe has not been able to hinder Hiſtorians from tranſmitting to Poſterity a Fact which ſhould teach Youth to bridle their Paſſions, by ſhewing them, that this was only Love changed into Hatred; That offended Love ſets every thing at work to Revenge it ſelf, And that ſuch Amours do often end in a fatal Cataſtrophe.

After this, Queen *Chriſtina* took her way towards *Rome*, with a deſign to end her Days there, but the Plague, which afflicted it, *Anno* 1659, kept her along time in the City of *Peſaro*, and in ſome other places of the Eccleſiaſtical State, till this Laſh of the Almighty being taken away, ſhe might return in Safety to *Rome*.

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Though her ſecond Entry into the Capital City of the World, came not near the Pomp of the firſt, it was however very Magnificent. A great many of the Nobility went to meet her out of the City, and to give her a welcom Reception, and ſhe had the general Acclamations of all ſorts of People. Immediately after ſhe came, ſhe put her Court into good Order, taking Perſons of the firſt Quality for Gentlemen and Pages; but had ſo little Oeconomy in her Houſe, and made ſo extravagant an Expence, thar her Revenue was not able to Maintain ſo numemerous a Court. And being always in Debt, ſhe was neceſſitated to Pawn her Plate, as ſhe had done her Jewels, for Money to pay off Bills. All which, the Pope underſtanding, gave her Cardinal *Azzolini* to be her Director, and Intendant of her Houſe. This Wiſe and Prudent Oeconomiſt, by retrenching part of the fooliſh and unneceſſary Expences of the Queen's Palace, put things into Order in a little time, and by receiving her Majeſty's Effects, inſtead of being in Debt as before, he ſo diſpoſed Matters, that ſhe had always a ready Caſh.

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This wiſe and able Politician never oppos'd himſelf to the Queen's Will, but on the contrary, gave free conſent to what Deſigns ſoever ſhe had. And becauſe he knew her Fancy, made her Houſe finer and more ſumptuous than ever, advancing Money of his own when the Queen's fail'd. By this means, he entred ſo far into the Queen's good Graces, that ſhe could never ſpeak of him without acknowledgment of his Kindneſs. But the Cardinal, who had more Contrivances in his Head than one at a time, look'd upon the Queen as a Perſon deſerving to be Beloved, without daring to declare himſelf a Lover; therefore ſtudied to gain her altogether by his Merit; And to make his Deſign take better Effect, he never ſpake to her but after he had been taking ſome great Care, or made ſome particular Application about her Majeſty's Domeſtick Affairs. The Queen, who ſtaid ſome time for nothing but his own Declaration to Surrender her ſelf, at laſt prevented him, by giving him Signs that he might be happy when he pleaſed; and he knew well enough how to make uſe of the occaſion, and followed her

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Inclination, and ſo they firſt embarked in the buſineſs of an Amour.

Behold here what ill Will has made publick concerning an Intrigue, which had no other Witneſſes but the Parties themſelves, pretending there are ſuch clear Reaſons of this Diſcovery, as will not ſuffer us to doubt the Truth of the Matter: However thus it is, that all the World ſpeaks about it.

This Conqueſt, ſuppoſing it true, diſſipated all the Queen's Melancholy, ſo that laying aſide all care, ſhe entertain'd no Thonght of any thing but her Pleaſures, and to inſpire Love into her new Favourite. The ſpecious pretence of Buſineſs did facilitate their Interviews, ſo that they might lay their Heads together, when they had a mind to take their fill of Pleaſures, without Reflection or Scandal. Nevertheleſs the Cardinal continued to have a great care of the Queen's Affairs; but took upon him to ſpeak with ſuch Command, and in ſo lofty a manner to the other Officers, that they concluded he was authoriz'd by the Queen to do it; and looking more narrowly into the Reaſon of this, they found

found him to be as well the true Favourite, as the Intendant of the Queen. And it was ſo managed by him, that no body durſt ſpeak of this Familiarity with her. But what the Domeſticks durſt not ſay then, Monſieur *Coulange* afterwards expreſs'd in this Song.

But her dear Azzolini *in* Rome
So charm'd her with Delight,
From him ſhe could not live a Day,
Nor paſs a tedious Night.

In theſe few Words Monſieur *Coulange* has expreſs'd very much, and withal comprehended the Intrigue of the Cardinal with the Queen: But he ſays nothing of the Cardinal's Character; which we muſt take in the Portraicture that follows.

Cardinal *Decio Azzolini*, was born at *Fermo* an Archiepiſcopal See in the *Marca Anconitana*, *Anno* 1623. He was a handſome Perſon, tall, and well proportion'd, had black Hair, lively and ſparkling Eyes; but his Noſe was ſomewhat ſhort, and yet he might be ſaid to have had a pleaſant and happy Countenance. The Qualifications of his Mind were extraordinary; He had ſo great a

Kno[illegible]ledge

knowledge in all good Literature, that ſcarce any of his Nation could equal him; and had a *Genius* more adapted than any other to penetrate into the Sciences. And as our Cardinal's Sphere wherein he mov'd was very large, it gave a large ſcope to his Mind. He had an excellent Gaiety, Briskneſs, and Strength of Wit, ſpake very well on all Subjects, writ exactly, and was admired in Converſation. Which Character agreed well enough with his Years; and though he was not altogether the Perſon he ſeemed to be, was yet of great Advantage to him, to inſinuate himſelf into the Queen's Mind. He was not exempt from Faults; for he was of a jealous and deceitful Temper; flexible and patient to exceſs, when his Affairs requir'd it; alſo covetous and biaſs'd to his own Intereſt, but of great Ability in the management of the moſt difficult Matters, and in the diſcovery of the moſt ſecret Intrigues. He ow'd his Cardinal's Cap to his Abilities this way. For though he was of Quality by Birth, and that there had been a Cardinal of his Name under *Sextus* V. He could not propoſe to obtain the Purple by his Merit alone; and beſides, he had taken up

a ſort of Life for a long time, which ſeem'd to be againſt his mind: For having gone through his Studies in the City, where he was born, the neceſſity of his Affairs obliged him to put himſelf into the Service of ſome Prelate of *Rome*. And for this purpoſe he employed the Credit of Cardinal *Barbarini* Patron of the *French*, and the Pope's Nephew, to whom he was recommended. He got him entred into the Service of the Archbiſhop *Pancirola*, Titular Patriarch of *Conſtantinople*, whom afterwards the Pope ſent his Nuncio into *Spain*; *Azzolini* accompanied him in this Voyage, and perform'd the Office of Secretary, during all the time of his Nunciature. In this place he made it appear to his Patron, that he was capable of being ſomething better than a Scribe; and indeed from thence forward the Patriarch conceived ſo advantageous an *Idea* of him, that being promis'd to be a Cardinal, he made *Azzolini* his Conclaviſt, after the Death of *Urban* the VIII.

Azzolini gave new and farther Proofs of his Abilities in this higher Station, inſomuch that in this Conclave, *Innocent* X. being created Pope, he ſometime after declared Cardinal *Pancirola* his

his prime Minister, in the room of Cardinal *Pamphilio* his Nephew, who had left his Hat that he might espouse the Princess of *Rossano*. *Azzolini*'s Protector being thus raised to the highest Charge in the Court of *Rome*, did not forget a Man whom he knew to be fit for great Employs, and made him Secretary of State. This new Post furnished *Azzolini* with fair Occasions of making himself known, by the management of his Patron's Favour: But Fortune would not suffer him to enjoy it long, and the Death of this Minister was enough to have shaken any other besides himself. But he had the good luck to please the Pope; and the Holy Father taking him into his Protection, put him immediately into the Prelature, by declaring him Chamberlain of Honour, and permitting him in the Interim to exercise the Charge of Secretary of State. Afterwards he was made Secretary of the Breves of Princes; and he acquitted himself so well in this Office, that the Pope call'd him his Eagle. These Breves were full of fine Thoughts, and all so nobly expres's'd, that one might take a great pleasure in reading them several times over. However *Azzolini* did not limit himself

himſelf to theſe Breves; but fearing that his 2*d*. Protector might fail him in the middle of his Fortune, as the firſt had done, he endeavoured by all Methods to advance himſelf; and, in the end found a favourable opportunity of doing it upon the Ruines of another.

Pope *Innocent* X. having no Nephew ſince the Marriage of Prince *Pamphilio*, adopted Cardinal *Caſtalli* his Favourite, and gave him all thoſe Employs and Offices which the Pope's Nephews uſually enjoy'd; and yet this ungrateful Perſon ruin'd his Fortunes by his own Fault; for not being content with his Proſperity, he thought to raiſe his Merit with the *Spaniards*, who had given him the Protection of the Kingdom of *Sicily*. And this he endeavoured, by revealing Secrets of State to them, in prejudice of the Rights of the Holy See, becauſe the World believ'd that the Pope, during *Maſanello*'s Rebellion, had a Mind to unite *Naples* to the Eccleſiaſtical State. And perhaps *Aſtalli* thought to come to the Sovereign Pontificate by the help of the *Spaniards*, whoſe Favour he underhand ſought by ſuch ſhameful Methods. Now the Pope coming to the knowledge of the Matter

ter, very much reproved him for it, and forbad him to ſee the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador any more. But it was to no purpoſe, which ſo angred his Holineſs, that he promiſed the Hat to any one that could diſcover the Intrigue of Cardinal *Aſtalli* with the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador. *Azzolini* who liv'd in the Palace, took his Advantage of this Conjuncture, and obſerved him very narrowly, till he diſcovered that every night about twelve of the Clock when the Pope was in Bed, *Aſtalli* came came down from his Apartment, in the Palace of *Montecavallo*, by a little winding pair of Stairs, at the bottom of which there was a Gate, leading out to a narrow Street, through which he paſſed in diſguiſe; and ſome paces from thence went into an Hackney Coach, which conveyed him to the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſadors: There he ſtaid two or three hours, and return'd back in the ſame manner. *Azzolini* told the Pope of this, who cauſed Cardinal *Aſtalli* to be ſeized, as he was thus returning one night from the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſadors; and after he had upbraided him with Perfidiouſneſs, diſcharged him from being of his Family, took from him his Employments, and expelled

expelled him his Palace. After which he fled into *Sicily*, and there died of Grief at his Bishoprick of *Catanea*.

Presently after this, *Azzolini* appeared at *Rome* cloathed in Purple, being made a Cardinal for his having made himself a Spy. His Promotion was much talked of, and surpriz'd many People, and this his Vigilancy in discovering Intrigues, hath been observed upon many other occasions, but particularly when he acted in his own Interests; for he would then use all Arts imaginable, till he brought his Designs about; and from hence it was that since that time we always saw him make so great a Figure in the Sacred Colledge. He was Secretary of State under the Pontificate of *Clement* IX. and in the four Conclaves wherein he was present, he had a good part in the Election of the Popes, *Alexander* VII. *Clement* IX. *Clement* X. and *Innocent* XI. being one of the most esteemed Cardinals of his Faction, which was called the Flying Squadron: But the best Fortune that ever happened to him, was, that he knew the way so soon to obtain the good Graces of Queen *Christina*; which he preserved all his Life; and she as religiously

giously kept her Word at her Death, which she had given him at the beginning, that she would make him her Heir-General.

Gallantry was not the only Business of the Queen; for as she always affected to pass for a great Wit, and pretended to an Understanding of all things, (though some have reported that she had but a superficial knowledge of the Sciences) she kept an Academy of good Literature in her Palace; where the most learned Men in *Rome* came to submit their Works to her Judgment: And she would listen with Pleasure to the immoderate Praises which were given her. Neither was Chymistry one of her least divertisements: For though she were descended from a Throne, she had not utterly cast aside the Love of Riches; and she believed all her Life, that she should obtain immense Treasures by means of this deceitful Art. Count *Santarini* entertained her with these Visions, and caused her to convert a good part of her Revenue into Smoak. But if he satisfied her in the foolish Passion which she had for Chymistry, he gave her also a great deal of Vexation, by the Violences he

was guilty of; for he committed an infinite number of Diſorders in *Rome*, under the Protection of her Majeſty. Nor was he the only irregular Perſon of her Court, for it ſeemed as if the Queen's Officers thought they were no way obliged to obſerve the Laws, and that they had a permiſſion to do all manner of Ill, and Affront all the World. They became the Protectors of Aſſaſſines and Thieves; and the Honour both of Wives and Daughters ſubmitted to their Tyranny. The Farmers of the Cuſtoms complain'd that they could not pay their Rent, becauſe the Merchants cauſed all ſorts of Goods to enter the City by the Queen's Coaches and Liverymen, which hindred them from being Viſited. Cardinal *Farneſe*, the Governour of *Rome*, a Perſon of Integrity, that render'd Juſtice to all, without reſpect of Perſons, Chaſtiſed ſome of the Queen's Domeſticks, for committing Crimes in contempt of his Authority. But ſhe who would play the Sovereign in the Dominions of others, took it heinouſly, yet could have no redreſs herein from the Pope, who was already tir'd with the complaints of their perpetual Diſorders. So that now he did

not

not look upon her with the same Eye as before, and resolv'd to retrench the greatest part of the Immunities, Exemptions, and Priviledges he had given her, seeing her Domesticks did abuse them in so gross a manner. And tho' the Queen was obliged to Cardinal *Farnese*, who as Major *Domo* to the Pope, had omitted nothing for the Queen's good Reception, the first time she entred *Rome*: she notwithstanding did what she could to give him Trouble and Vexation. For this Cardinal being of the Family of the Duke of *Parma*, had the use of a House of Pleasure belonging to the said Prince, which was scituate near the Gate of St. *Pancras*, a little above the Palace de *Riarli*, at *Langara*, which the Queen had bought for her Life. The Cardinal coming often thither for benefit of the Air, took a Pleasure in Beautifying the Garden; and because he wanted Water, agreed with the Fountain-keepers of the Apostolick Chamber, to furnish him with two Cocks of Water from the Fountain of Pope *Paul* V. which appears so Nobly above St. *Pietr di Montozio*. But at the same time, it seems he diminished the Queen's, which he believed her Servants would not per-

ceive, becauſe the Queen had abundan
of Water. The Gardiners nevertheles
complain'd to her Majeſty, how th
had leſſened the Current which ſerv
to water their Herbs and other Plan
Now, the Queen durſt not complain
the Chamber it ſelf, and therefore thr
all her Choler at the Cardinal; and b
cauſe ſhe would ſpight him, caus'd ſo
Paliſadoes ſhe had in her Garden, a
held up the Earth of the curious Terr
which they call *La vigna Farneſe*, to
pull'd up; ſo that it was ready to tum
ble into the Queen's Garden, that lay
beneath it. His Eminence would wil
lingly have built a Wall, but could not
effect it, by reaſon of this Difference:
however, he ſaid pleaſantly, That he
had bought the Water of the Apoſto
lick Chamber, and that if the Queen
had a mind to have more, and would
make her Application to the Officers
that Rented out thoſe Waters, ſhe might
have enough to ſerve many Mills.

All theſe Vexations joyn'd to the
Queen's natural Inconſtancy, made her
reſolve to return once more into *Ger-
many*. She therefore departed from *Rome*
Anno 1666, diſmiſſing Part of her Fa-
mily, and to defray the Charge of her
Voyage,

oyage, borrow'd Five thousand Crowns
Cardinal *Antonio Barberini*.

When she Arrived at *Trent*, the Mar-
iss *del Monte* who had been Banished
t of the Ecclesiastical State, for cer-
in Crimes, came to throw himself at
r Feet, and desire her Protection.
The Queen admitted him into her Ser-
vice, not for any Merit of his Person,
but being a great Boaster, she was glad
to have so brave a Champion in her
Train. But that which more engaged
her to Protect him, was to do a de-
spight to Cardinal *Chigi*; which was
but an ill return for the great Honours
and Respects Pope *Alexander* VII. of
the same Family had done her when she
came first to *Rome*.

Horatio de *Bourbon*, Marquis *del Monte*,
was of so Noble a Family, that he had
the Name and Arms which the Royal
Family of *France* for many Ages, had born
with so great Glory. The *Bourbons* of *Ita-*
derive their Pedigree as high as *Charle-*
maigne: And tho' they do not descend
from *Robert* Count of *Clermont* in *Boau-*
vois, fourth Son of the King St. *Lewis*,
from whom *Henry* the Great came in a
direct Line; yet are they come from
Archambaud, Sire of *Bourbon*, that left the

Bourbonnois to Prince *Robert*, who Married his Daughter and ſole Heir. And it is ſuppoſed this *Bourbon Archambaud* was a Prince of the Royal Houſe of *France*; that he deſcended from *Lewis* the Young; and was a *Cadet*, who in the time of the *Croiſade*, ſettl'd himſelf in *Italy*. They poſſeſſed the Marquiſate *Delmonte* in the *Appennine* Mountains, under their Couſins of the Dutchy of *Urbino*, *Tuſcany* and *Romania*: 'Tis a Fief of the Empire, whoſe Inveſtiture was given by *Charles* the V. and as themſelves pretend, they have been Maſters of it from the Reign of the Emperor *Frederick* II. However it be, this famous Perſon having always a round Family, and their Marquiſate being very Poor, ſcituate upon the Frontiers, and in inacceſſible Places as well by Art as Nature, was always a Retreat for the *Banditti*, of whom theſe Gentlemen became the Protectors. And I have ſpoke with ſome Ancient People, who aſſured me, that the Father of Marquiſs *Horatio*, and his Uncles devoured more Men for the ſake of their wealth, than any of the moſt famous *Bandits* in the Kingdom of *Naples* have ever done. This Marquiſs *Horatio*, was a proper Man of a hand-

handſom Shape, had a large Face, hollow Eyes, a hook Noſe, a large Mouth and a forked Chin; his Complexion was pale, and his Hair of an Aſh Colour; he was Nervous, and of a ſtrong Conſtution, having his Body Hairy, his Knees turning outward, and his Feet inward; he had a precipitate Gate, and nothing great or Majeſtick in him; he was neither very Fat, nor very Lean, a great Opiniator, and had a Womaniſh Voice: He had the appearance of a good Man, but was wholly ſteered by his own Intereſts; a Perſon very Senſible, but more inclin'd to Ill than Good, exceſſively addicted to Women; Paſſionate in Play, and knew all the Tricks and Cheats thereof, was a great Diſſembler, of a Vicious Mind, Revengeful, and very Cruel.

In a little time he got ſuch an Aſcendant over the Queen, that ſhe adher'd to every thing he ſaid: And he ſpake with ſo much Aſſurance, and was ſo Poſitive, that all that heard him were Aſtoniſh'd. As for his Religion, his Manners ſhew'd that he had very little, however he confeſs'd and communicated as others do. He knew when to Speak, and when to be Silent; was very

brisk among the Ladies, and ſpent much Money upon them, but 'twas oftentimes at the Expence of Merchants and Trades-men. Every thing that he could lay hands on, was his own, whether Sacred or Profane; and he us'd to ſay, That he would revenge himſelf without Threatning, for feas of being prevented. He eat well, but without Exceſs, and if any one had a Secret to excite Luxury, he would have it, though he dearly bought it with his Money. Trouſles, Muſhrooms, Sellery, Artichoak bottoms, and all things which ſtir up and provoke, were for his Palate: He drank none but the choiceſt Wines, and after a Feaſt, would drink a glaſs of Greek, or other ſuch ſort of Wine, and eat two or three Comfits to help Digeſtion.

The Queen Travelled over *Germany* along with him, but made no ſtay till ſhe came to *Hamburgh*, where ſhe Reſided a long time, taking ſometimes little Journeys to *Staden*, *Verden*, *Bremen*, and other Cities of the Neighbourhood under the Dominion of the *Swedes*. At laſt ſhe took a Fancy to re-enter the Kingdom; and upon her Arrival at *Nicoping*, the Council of State, who had the

the Administration of all Affairs, during the Minority of this Present King, *Charles* the XI, Son of *Charles* the X. to whom she had resign'd the Crown, sent to intreat her to come no farther, for fear of giving occasion to some People of mutinous and unsettl'd Spirits, to believe she had a mind to re-mount the Throne. But the true reason of the Senate's Message was, that they apprehended some danger from her unquiet and embroyling Humour; besides, they believed, that she might possibly have some Party in the Kingdom, and that she repented her Abdication, as *Charles* the V. had done. The change of her Religion, and the Insolence of her People, was another reason why they refus'd to permit her Entrance into their Capital City; and especially after the Accident which happen'd to one of her Almoners, called the Abbot *Santoni*, a Priest of *Tuscany*, whom she had carred along with her, contrary to the Counsel of Cardinal *Azzolini*, who gave her two Priests of the Oratory of the new Church, to direct her Conscience, and to celebrate Mass. These good Fathers were as Prudent and Regular,

as the Abbot *Santoni* was Irregular and unworthy of his Character.

One day he was like to have Deflowred a Damsel of *Nicoping*, who came into that City from a Neighbouring Castle, to pay her Duty to Queen *Christina* as her ancient Sovereign. But during her stay in the City, *Santoni* got an Acquaintance with her; and because she expressed her Respects with a certain Freedom, which is natural to those Northern People, he thought she used some Compliance, of which he might make his Advantage. in this Imagination, he one day finding an Opportunity, endeavoured to force her Modesty, and had committed an Outrage upon her, if she had not cried out for help. This brought in a great many People, who laid hands on this Infamous Person. Which Action of his, gave a great Scandal to the Catholick Religion, the People being usually unjust enough to conclude Generals from Particulars, as if Faults were not Personal, and as if there were not Good and Bad in all Societies. But though the Queen did not turn him away for this shameful thing, the Parents of the Damosel conceiving great Indignation at so impudent a Villainy,

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Way-laid him, with an intent to bath their Hands in his Blood, for the Injury he had done their Daughter; which the Queen understanding, was obliged to take him into her own Coach, to shelter him from their Insults; which without doubt he would have received, had it not been for this Precaution.

The same *Santoni* had like to have been Kill'd at *Hamburgh* for another Frolick. There was a French Protestant, a Merchant of *Rochel*, who had settled himself, and Married a Wife in that City, with whom *Santoni* having got an Acquaintance, had the freedom of his House, and Visited his Wife in his Absence, as is usual among Civil People, without any ill Consequence. Now our *Italian* being born in a Country where Jealousie reigns, and not without cause, and he not being accustomed to such Familiarity, hop'd that the Lady would not be Cruel, when any handsom opportunity offered, and therefore to captivate her good Will, was very Complacent to her upon all occasions; but one day he had a certain Caprice which had like to have cost him very Dear. For the Wife having desired him to tell her how she might Complement her Hus-

Husband in *Italian* when he came home: he taught her such Words as an honest Woman ought not to have in her Mouth, if she knew what they signified: But as she understood no *Italian*, she innocently repeated the words she had learn'd, for he had taught her this sweet Lesson so often, that she had got it by Heart. He did this thinking the Merchant had not understood *Italian*, but was mistaken, for he had Travelled in his Youth into *Italy*, and was so Astonished to hear himself saluted with such vilainous Words, that in Passion, he gave her a sound Box on the Ear. The poor Woman very much surprized at these new Caresses, fell a Weeping: But the Merchant did not stop there, he would know who taught her these Words. He understood at last, though by Force and Threatnings, that 'twas the Abbot *Santoni*; and she made him so throughly sensible of her Sincerity and Innocence, that the good man could no longer doubt; so that he turned all his Fury upon this unworthy Priest, and went to seek him at the Queen's Lodgings, with an intent to Kill him; but the Rage which transported him, having alarmed those which he met with, they gave advice to *Santoni*

to

to avoid the Rencounter. However *Santoni* durſt come no more afterwards to the Merchants.

Q. *Chriſtina* returned by Land from *Nicoping* to *Colmar*, where ſhe Embark'd for *Lubeck*, and from thence came into the Dutchy of *Bremen* and Principality of *Verden*; and as theſe Eſtates depended on the Crown of *Sweden*, they expreſſed themſelves to her with very great Reſpects; ſhe was well receiv'd by the Magiſtrates, and they preſented her their Keys. The Burgers with all the Militia, not only put themſelves in Arms, but alſo drew out the Regular Troops, as well Infantry as Cavalry, to give her all the Honour they could. The Queen was equipped in a Black Velvet Juſtacore, having an Hat upon her Head, adorn'd with a Plume of White Feathers, and being Moucted like a Cavalier upon an Excellent Horſe, we rid through their Ranks, where ſhe met with many old Officers who had ſerv'd her in the Army during her Regn, and ſome that had even ſerved under the Great *Guſtavus Adolphus* her Father. Among others, ſhe knew General *Wrangel*, to whom ſhe made a thouſand Compliments, and would needs exerciſe the Troops in his Preſence.

Preſence. She would undertake to give Directions for the Marches and Counter-Marches of the Infantry, and the like for the Wheelings of the Horſe; but it ſeem'd the Management of an Intregue of Love, was more ſuitable to her, than the ordering of an Army, for ſhe gave very improper Words of Command, which made *Urangel* Laugh; and he was forc'd to aſſiſt her by fit Terms, and to explain her Orders, that he might not introduce new Phraſes into the Art Military, but this could hinder him afterwards from making pleaſant Jeſts of her among his Friends, and making Reflections on the Queen, as guilty of Folly and Self-conceitedneſs. And yet for all this, ſhe had ſo good an Opinion of her own Merit, that ſhe believed her ſelf perfectly Skill'd and Knowing in all things: And when once invited at *Stade* to a *Wirſchaff*, which is a kind of merry Ball, ſhe appear'd in an Antique Habit, dancing in Maſquerade, Cloathed like a Nymph of the Woods, and behaved her ſelf in a moſt Ridiculous manner.

In the mean time the Marquiſs *del Monte* knew ſo well how to Inſinuate himſelf into the Queen's Mind, that he became

became the Arbitrator or Maſter of the Houſe. But he was as Scandalous as the Abbot *Santoni*; and it ſeem'd as if theſe two Men had an abſolute Authority to Seduce all the Women they came near. The Queen often heard of their Inſolencies, but when People complain'd, did nothing but Laugh, or gave ſuch gentle Reprimands, that they took them as a permiſſion to commit further Diſorders.

The Marquiſs was not content with his Debauchery only, but plotted and contriv'd to commit Violence and Rapine; Covetouſneſs having no leſs the Dominion over him than other Vices. The firſt proof of his priveledg'd Valour, was to cauſe a poor *Frenchman* to be Kill'd, who not knowing how to moderate his Tongue, was the cauſe of his own Death: His Office was a Lungs or Bellows-blower, introduc'd to the Queen's Service in favour of that worthy Science, which her Majeſty had in ſo great Eſteem, for ſhe hop'd by it to recompence the giving up her Crown, in getting the Philoſopher's Stone. And for this purpoſe, ſhe built a Laboratory in her Lodgings at *Hamburgh*, where this French Chymiſt begun his Operations.

tions. The Marquiſs ſeeing the Queen was ſo eaſily perſwaded to convert a large Sum of Money into Smoak, thought he might do very well to ſave one half of that Expence, and ſo keep as many of the Gold and Silver Pieces for himſelf, which the Chymiſt had to calcine, as he could conveniently; ordering him to find out an Invention to make the the Queen believe, that the loſs of them happened ſome other way, and for ſo doing, aſſur'd him both of his Protection, and his future Kindneſs to him. This laſted for ſome Months; but the Intendant of her Majeſty's Houſe, required at laſt, to know what was become of all the Money; for the Queen who was only made acquainted with things by Halves, contented her ſelf with ſome Experiments, truſting to the deceitful Promiſes of the Chymiſt, who promis'd her Mountains of Gold. Well then, this Bellows-blower was obliged to come to an Account, and his inability to anſwer it, ſtruck him with ſuch Fear, that he was fain to run from *Hamburgh*, and fly into the Territories of *Denmark*, which were very near; from whence he wrote to the Queen, that the Marquiſs *del Monte* had embezled and

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misapplied the greatest part of the Money. The Marquis being a Bold and and Confident Man, clear'd himself of this Calumny, and all the Reproach was thrown upon the poor Chymist, to whom the Marquis caused a Letter to be written under a false Name, inviting him to go to a certain Place, where he should find an Employ: The Chymist went readily thither, thinking no harm, and was there Murder'd by the Marquis's Orders.

Our *Barbon* now wanting this Income, was obliged to find out another way to get Money: He was called *Barbon*, by a corruption of the word, instead of *Bourbon*, which is the real Name of his Family. There was at *Hamburgh* a very rich Jew, a *Portugueſe* by Nation, Named *Teixero*, who was a famous Merchant, and worth many Millions: This Man having a great deal of ready Money, was the Receiver General of the Queen's Revenue, and used to advance her Money at a large Intereſt. The Marquis at their first Acquaintance pretended himself his great Friend, but with an intention some way or other to screw Money out of him. This Jew had a Nephew whose Name

was

was *Abraham*, a very handſom young Man, to whom the Marquiſs preſented a fine Horſe, on which this young Gentleman would ſometimes Ride to a Country Houſe belonging to his Uncle, to take the Air, and Divert himſelf; thither the Marquiſs would often ſend him little Preſents, and Muſicians for him to make Merry with his Miſtreſſes: Which Kindneſs was continued for ſome time, till at laſt one Night the Marquiſs caus'd *Abraham* to be Seiz'd by ſix Horſemen all Arm'd, whom they took and lifted up at his whole length, and put him in a great Coffer, which they boar'd at both ends on purpoſe to give him Air, threatning to Kill him if he cried out or ſpoke one word, and ſo convey-ed him into a Wood in the Country of *Brunſwick*. In the mean time *Teixero* was extreamly troubled that he could not ſee his Nephew return; and after two or three days Abſence, he ſent to his Country-Houſe to enquire News of him; and word was brought back, that the young Gentleman parted from thence the ſame day he came, with intent to return to the City. The Uncle cauſed great Search to be made far him every where, and the Marquiſs *del Monte* was

not

not a little Officious to ſerve him in it, making ſhew as if he would rumage every corner of the whole World to find out his dear Friend *Abraham*. Now, there was one *Cleuter* a Servant of the Queen's, ſaid to be a Shoomaker's Son of *Leige*, who undertook to make ſo ſtrict and narrow a Search, that he would not fail to bring ſome News of him. The Queen promis'd a conſiderable Gratuity; and the Jew on his part engaged to give a good Reward to the Perſon that could bring back his dear Nephew. After five days Search (altogether at the Expence of the good Man) Tidings were brought, that *Abraham* was found in a Wood, at the Mercy of ſix Men Maſqued, who ſaid, They were poor Officers that wanted Money to Re-mount their Companies; and gave the Searchers to underſtand, that they would not releaſe their Priſoner at a lower Rate than Twenty thouſand Rix Dollars; That they had Thirty Comrades more at their Command, and in caſe they were forced, they would ſooner Kill *Abraham*, than releaſe him for a leſs Sum. The Jew when he heard this ſad News, was driven almoſt to Deſpair; and the Queen

was

was ſo much incenſed at it, that ſhe would have ſent the whole *Swediſh* Army into the Country of *Bremen* to have deſtroyed thoſe Thieves; but General *Wrangel*, who had been an old Experienc'd Officer, and had no mind to undertake the Exploit, could not forbear Laughing, and repreſented to her Majeſty, that theſe Troopers contained in the Foreſt, were a pack of Deſperate People, like ſo many furious Wild Beaſts, and that a great many brave Men might be loſt before they could be able to hunt them out of the Wood, or get any advantage of them; and that if they ſhould kill *Abraham*, his Friends would be never a whit the better. To make ſhort the Story, after a great many Treaties and Offers, they were at laſt forced to carry Ten thouſand Rix Dollars, which were divided among theſe honeſt People, according to the Diſtribution of *Barbon*, who kept the greateſt ſhare for himſelf. *Abraham* returned preſently to *Hamburgh*, from whence he durſt not go abroad any more, for fear of ſuch another Accident.

Our

Our *Barbon* was no leſs Gallant in Amours, than other Intrigues. For a *French* Captain of Foot in the Service of *Sueden*, coming out of the Dutchy of *Bremen* to *Hamburgh*, about ſome Buſineſs, brought a pretty Miſtreſs along with him, whom he call'd his Wife, and was ſo Jealous of her, that contrary to the Cuſtom and temper of his Country, he kept her up cloſe. But the Marquiſs happening to ſee her, was ſo taken with her Beauty, that he fell into an extream longing to have an Amorous Correſpondence with her. By the power of Money he found means to ſpeak to her, and ſend a ſmall Preſent, which ſhe refus'd with Diſdain, and Checked the Meſſenger very Severely for offering it. But *Cleuter* to ſerve the Marquiſs, went to the Captain like a Block-head, and after a ſhort Compliment, told him, *Captain, you have a very handſome Miſtreſs, ſure you will not be ſo unreaſonable to keep her all to your ſelf.* The Captain, who was a Man of very high Courage, being ſurpriz'd with ſo blunt a Salute, fiercely anſwer'd, that he wonder'd a Man of his Appearance and Character, durſt ſpeak ſo to a Military Man, who carried that by his Side which would

would do him reason against any insolent Affront that should be offer'd him. That the Consideration and Respect he had for the Queen, did hinder him from making a proper return at that Instant, but that he hoped to find both a fitter time and place to make him repent his Rashness. This was great Moderation for a Man of Courage as he was, and who had the Principal Officers in that City to back him, I mean the Body of the Army, which the King Quarter'd in *Bremen*, *Verden*, and *Staden*, all which had been yielded up to him by the Peace of *Munster*; for there was a great many *French* among those Troops. Such of them as were then at *Hamburgh* seeing the Captain out of Humour, would needs know the Reason, and having understood it, would have humbled *Cleuter* after another manner. But the Captain intending to revenge himself like a Man of Honour, went first of all to the Quee[illegible] who only Laugh'd at him, being prepossess'd by the Marquis, who was the prime cause of the Difference. This Anger'd the *Frenchman* and made him Chalenge *Cleuter* to fight him with Sword and Pistol. *Cleuter* accepted it with difficulty, being indeed forc'd to

it

it for fear of passing for a Coward and loosing his Reputation; but however took Eight days to prepare himself. The *Frenchman* generously and readily consented, and the Marquis in vain endeavoured to agree the Matter during that interval of time.

The day of Combat came, and the People (as is usual there) flock'd out of *Hamburgh* to go and see it. For though the Magistrates had forbidden Duels in the City, yet they could not hinder People from going out and fighting in the Lands that were under the Power of *Denmark*, which was but a League from thence, at a place called *Altena*; near which, scarce any Week pass'd, but there was some Duel or other fought, the Custom being grown so general, that even among the very Tradesmen, every one pretended this way to revenge himself of the Injuries done him. Our two Champions being met, went together upon the top of a little rising Ground, near a Meadow, and there wheeling about, they both fired their Pistols at the same time; the *Frenchman*'s fail'd, but *Clenter*'s went off, and Shot his Adversary in the Arm, who finding himself Wounded, was the more Enraged, and not-

notwithſtanding his Wound, drew out the other Piſtol, which alſo fail'd as the firſt did. The *Frenchman* ſeeing this immediately Diſmounted, and with Sword in hand Attack'd *Cleuter*, but he, though he ſaw ſo much Bravery, inſtead of offering fair Quarter, fir'd his other Piſtol, Shot him into the Belly, and Kill'd him. After which, the Spectators ran in and parted them; but the *Frenchman* having loſt much Blood, was carried Dead on a *Bier* into *Hamburgh*.

Thus paſſed this Combat, at which the *French* were extreamly Mortified. And it was ſaid, that *Cleuter* had a Charm which hinder'd his Enemies Piſtols from going off: But for my part, I really believe it to be his Misfortune, for Arms do often fail Men on that manner, of which this is not the firſt Inſtance. At leaſt *Cleuter* did not act like a Genteel Cavalier in the Queen's Judgment, who ought, (as ſhe her ſelf confeſſed) to have given good Quarter, when he ſaw his Adverſary not in a condition of Fighting. But he on the contrary, did not ſhew the leaſt Compaſſion for his Misfortune, nor gave him the leaſt good Word, but always, like a Brute, ſaid an hundred things of the *French* Nation.

But

But one *Clairet*, Valet de Chambre to the Queen, who was a Friend of the *French* Captain's, was extreamly affected with Grief at it, and had the Generosity to assist his Widow. The Queen also gave her something out of Charity towards her Maintenance. As for *Cleuter*, he acquir'd the reputation of a Valiant Person among those of his Gang, which made him more Insolent than ever.

At that Juncture, a *Scotch* Colonel made his Court to the Queen, in hopes of obtaining some considerable Employ by her Credit. But as he was coming away from her Majesty, had some Difference, I know not how, with *Cleuter*, and he without many words, gave him a Wound in the right side with his Sword. The *Scotchman* had no time to put himself upon his Defence; for *Cleuter* was assisted by Seven or Eight, who kept Guard at the Gate of the Queen's Palace, and they pursued the *Scotchman* with Sword in Hand, so that he was fain to fly for fear of worse Mischief.

The Queen augmenting her Guard, after an Accident which happen'd to her in *Hamburgh*, of which we shall speak by and by, made *Cleuter* a Captain, whom she carried with her afterwards to *Rome*,

and there preſented him to Pope *Clement*, who gave him a Regiment, which he ſent to *Candia*. *Cleuter* in that Expedition reaped more glorious Lawrels than he had done in *Germany*. And after his return, had a company of the Pope's Guards, even to his Dying day.

Although the Queen had Reform'd one part of her Houſe at *Rome*, as that of her Pages, Gentlemen, and other Officers, yet for the ſake of her Grandeur, the Salaries of the Duke of *Poli* and other great Officers of her Chamber, were conſtantly paid. Cardinal *Azzolini*, who had not been much againſt the Queen's Journey, believing ſhe would have moderated her Expences, and by it have clear'd her ſelf out of Debt; being very much ſurpriz'd to hear of the Queen's profuſe way of Living, could not forbear Writing to her Majeſty, and giving her to underſtand that he could no longer ſupport her Houſe at *Rome*, whither ſhe ſent nothing ſince her Departure from thence; That he had Borrow'd what Money he was able, and had no further Credit; And that there was a conſiderable Sum owing to her Domeſticks for Wages; That he deſir'd ſhe would at leaſt give him permiſſion

miſſion to put off her Stables, and ſell the Horſes, becauſe this was of very great Expence to her there. The Queen who wanted not a quick Apprehenſion in other things, did not believe that the Life ſhe led Abroad, had been ſo well known at *Rome*, and upon the reading this Letter, fell into a very great and fearful tranſport of Paſſion. She complain'd, that ſhe had as many Spies about her as ſhe had Servants; and her Phyſician was ſuſpected to have written an Account of his Miſtreſs's Actions to *Rome*. The poor Man was ſent for into her Preſence, and ſhe took him by the Collar and would have Strangled him, if he had not been Reſcued out of her Hands; and after a Thouſand injurious Reproaches, ſhe turn'd him out of her Service, without giving him leave to Juſtifie himſelf. The Marquiſs *Del Monte* doubting leſt he ſhould alſo be taken to Task, had an extraordinary Curioſity to ſee the Letters which came from *Rome*, and importun'd *Laudini*, a ſhe Favourite of the Queen's ſo much, that ſhe ventured to take ſome of them out of her Toilet, and others our of her Pocket when we was in Bed. By this means he found what he ſought for, and

knew that *Azzolini* was inform'd of all. From thenceforward he therefore took all thoſe into his Intereſts who made their Advantage of the Queen's Extravagance; for indeed, almoſt every one Pillag'd her, and was for catching at what he could for himſelf. But her Intendant, whoſe Name was *Pezze*, whom the Cardinal had recommended as a Man of Integrity and great skill in the management of Houſhold Affairs, did very often beſeech her to look into his Accounts, and to moderate her Expences: But ſhe always told him ſhe would never Quarrel with him, and that ſhe had rather truſt him than any other, and deſir'd him not to trouble her with his Books. This was fine Oeconomy and excellent Order in a Queen's Court, who pretended her ſelf a Philoſopher, and Moraliz'd upon all things. But for all this, the Intendant or Steward, contrary to the uſual and general Practice and Principles of thoſe of his Profeſſion, was Faithful to her even to his Death, which happened to him not long after in a ſmall Village in *Brunſwick*, as he was returning with the Queen for *Rome*. The violence of the Convulſions, in which he Expired, did appa-

apparently demonſtrate that he was Poyſon'd, and the Marquiſs was ſuppoſed to be the Author; though it was nois'd Abroad at that time and Printed in ſome Gazetts, that the Queen had cauſed him to be Kill'd, which I am apt to believe, was meer Calumuy, for ſhe could have no Hatred againſt him, ſeeing he ſerv'd her very well. Yet ſhe never made any Enquiries into the manner of his Death; and after ſhe was come back to *Rome*, when the Brother of this Unhappy Perſon, came to throw himſelf at her Feet, and to beg Juſtice of her with Tears and Sighs, ſhe did nothing but Laugh, and gave not ſo much as one word of Comfort to the poor Man.

As for *Laudini*, ſhe had been a Sempſtreſs at *Paris*, and her Name was *Fanchon*. The Queen being at *Paris*, took her into her Service for her Talkativeneſs, and becauſe ſhe was tolerably Handſome, and very Handy in whatever ſhe did. Her Majeſty made her one of the Women of her Chamber, and a little after Married her to an *Italian* called *Landini*, who was one of her Auſpeſſades, and one of them who Kill'd the Marquiſs *Monaldeſchi* by her Order.

She ſerv'd the Queen to her dying day, and follow'd her in all her Travels. Her Husband ſtay'd at *Rome* by reaſon of ſome Indiſpoſition; but the Marquiſs did ſo well Comfort her in his Abſence, and ſo efficaciouſly ſupplied the want of the Auſpeſſade, that *Laudini* became big with Child, which put her into a terrible Conſternation.

But the Queen who was good Natur'd and pitied the weakneſs of thoſe of her Sex, perceived by her Countenance and Melancholy Behaviour, that ſhe had ſome Trouble upon her Spirits, and by the force of Queſtions underſtanding the truth of the whole Matter, ſhe bid her be of good Courage, and not Deſpair, for ſhe would take care to Pacifie her Huſband. And ſince the thing was done, ſhe Pardon'd her upon the condition ſhe would be wiſer for the time to come. But alas, ſhe Preach'd to an hardened Impenitent, for both before and after this Accident, ſhe gave her ſelf intirely up to the Embraces of the Marquiſs.

For whenever ſhe ſaw the Queen buſie in her Chymiſtry, or in writing Letters, ſhe would go out at the Garden

den Gate to her Gallant, with a *Rinquelet* upon her Head, and her Face cover'd like the Women of *Hamburgh* when they have no mind to be known. A *Rinquelet* is a kind of Veil, made of fine black Serge, which being put over the Head, covers both the Arms and Shoulders. *Ludini* went often thus Disguis'd to a French Perriwig Makers, called *La Fortune*, whose Wife was the Manager of their Intrigue. 'Twas there the Marquis us'd to meet her, and obtain all the Favours he could wish for; but she went so often, that at last she became Big, as I have been saying, and came somewhat before her time, being brought to Bed of a pretty Female Child, which was Baptized and Named *Mary*. This the Queen took and bred up in her Palace, and there she always liv'd under her Mother's Wing, till her Majesties Death. The Child having a fine Voice, as she grew up, was taught to Sing and Play on divers Instruments, and became very skilful in Musick, insomuch, that one of the Princes of *Brunswick*, who Resided for some time at *Rome*, immediately after the Queen's Death, carried her back into *Germany*, where she had the Honour of being admitted into the

Service of the Dutcheſs of *Hanover*, by means of theſe Qualifications.

As for *Landini*, the Husband, who threatned his Wife by Letters, with nothing leſs than Murder and Poyſon, at laſt did Pardon her, through the inſtant Prayers and intreaties of the Queen, who alſo gave him wherewithal to make Attonement for the Injury and Affront his Wife had done him.

Whilſt the Queen was at *Hamburgh*, Monſieur *Pompone*, Monſieur *Chevalier de Terlon*, and Monſieur the Biſhop of *Beziers*, now Cardinal *Bonzi*, in their return from their ſeveral Ambaſſages of the two Northern Crowns, and to *Poland*, paſſing by this Place, Saluted the Queen, who receiv'd them with great Reſpect, according to their Quality; and ſhe forgot not to make mention of her Marquiſs *Del Monte*, to boaſt of his Nobility and of his Honourable Name of *Bourbon*. But Monſieur *Pompone* one day told her very calmly, when the Queen would have perſwaded him, the Marquiſs was of the Family of the Kings of *France*; that he had read and examined over and over the Genealogy of the Houſe of *Bourbon*, but then he had no where found, that any Branch of

of it had ever pass'd into *Italy*, except one, unless the Constable *de Bourbon*, who Commanded the Imperial Army, which Sacked *Rome* in the Year 1527, had left any Bastards in *Italy*. And at another time, Monsieur *de Terlin* Reproach'd him before the Prince of *Hamburgh*, with the Belying his Descent, by his suffering so long the Insolencies of *Cleuter* towards the *French*; telling him, that he instead of Reproving him, seem'd rather to encourage him against them. But the greatest Mortification that ever the Marquis had, was that of Madam the Grand Marshal *Sobieski*, since Queen, and at this present, Widow of the late King *John* of *Poland*, who passing by *Hamburgh*, the Marquis was sent to Compliment her, and after in a Visit she made the Queen, he would needs have offered her some unbecoming Familiarity, though I do not well know or in what manner it was; but he received for it such a severe Reprimand from that Princess, and she look'd upon him with so much Contempt, that he had no further inclination to make the like Attempt again.

During her stay here, Pope *Alexander* VII. died at *Rome*, and the Queen ap-

prehending that Cardinal *Farneſe* might be choſe Pope, ſhe preſently thought of a Retreat either to *Venice* or *Holland*, believing that this Pope would not ſuffer the Diſorders of her Court. But the States of the United Provinces, who ſome time before had oblig'd the *Swedes* to reſtore to *Denmark* all they had taken from that Kingdom, ſent word to the Queen, That her Royal Character would be ſlighted in their Republick: And at laſt ſhe had a mind to have Settled her ſelf in *England*, which was then quiet enough, but ſhe did not like the People. In the midſt of theſe Thoughts and Projects, ſhe underſtood by a Letter from Cardinal *Antonio*, that Cardinal *Julio Roſpiglioſi*, was created Pope, by the Name of *Clement* IX. on the 20th of *June* 1667.

There had been ſome Friendſhip formerly between them, and ſhe hop'd to draw an Advantage from his Pontificate. Now, therefore becauſe this was a Subject that deſerv'd it, ſhe reſolv'd to give a publick Teſtimony of her Joy, notwithſtanding the Remonſtrances of the Count *de Homburg*, one of the Houſe of the Lantgraves of *Heſſe*, who advis'd her againſt it, for fear the People of ſo great a City as *Hamburgh*, ſhould commit

mit ſome Inſolence againſt Her Majeſty. This was alſo confirm'd by one of the Magiſtrates, but notwithſtanding all that could be ſaid, ſhe would follow her own Capricio, and the Counſel of the Marquis, who always puſh'd her on to Expences, wherein he always found his Account, ſeeing all things paſs'd through his Hands.

She gave Order therefore for the preparing a fine Artifical Fire, and illuminated the Front of her Palace, where ſhe caus'd to be painted a noble Compartment with the Pope's Arms in it, and many curious Figures which repreſented his Vertues. But above it there was diſplayed the Picture of the Euchariſt in a Cloud, ador'd by Angels, and below was an Emblem of the Church in a Pontifical Habit, treading Hereſie under Foot. One might eaſily have imagined the Effects which ſuch a Repreſentation would produce in a Proteſtant City, where the Exerciſe of the Catholick Religion is not publickly permitted. So a great number of Seamen, both *Engliſh*, *Dutch* and *Danes*, joyn'd to the Populace of *Hambourgh*, crowded into the Space which is before the Palace, being drawn together by the Novelty

velty of the Sight. Where to increaſe the Misfortune ſhe had made two Fountains of Wine, whoſe Liquor animated them the more to throw Stones againſt the Decoration. Some of the Queens Domeſticks to repreſs the Inſolence of the People, ſhot Piſtols out at the Windows without Ball, but this inſtead of diſperſing, incited them the more, and made them redouble their Inſults, till they within were forc'd to ſhut the Palace Gates. The Windows were quickly battered all to pieces, and many of them would have ſet fire to the Gates with Bundles of Straw. In this Extremity the Queens Servants had recourſe to four Falcons that lay in the Hall, loading them with broken pieces of Braſs and Iron, and diſcharged them againſt the enraged Populace, of whom they kill'd ſome and wounded others. This indeed made them recoil a little, but the Blood and Cries of their wounded Companions animated them afreſh; ſo they return'd to the Charge with an Intent to break open the Gates and plunder the Palace. But becauſe they had neither Petards, nor Engines to force them, a Score of Luſty Fellows brought a huge long Body of a Tree, that lay at a Carpenter's

penter's Door in the Street to make a Maſt for a Ship, which they moving backwards and forwards like the Battering Rams of the Antients, did many times eſſay to break open the Gates.

It was then the Queen knew, but too late, that ſhe had done ill to follow the Counſel which had been given her; and the fear of falling into the Hands of this Inſolent Mob, did ſo terrifie her, that ſhe knew not what to reſolve on; for the Place was no longer tenable, and the greateſt part of her Domeſticks were without Doors, and even the Marquis *Del Monte* from whom ſhe had it.

At laſt two of the Servants took the Queen by the Arms, and led her out at a Back-door, which opened into another Street, and brought her on Foot, in Man's Apparel, to Monſieur *le Chevalier de Terlon*'s Lodgings, who was then at *Hambourgh*; from whence he was to paſs into *Denmark* and *Sueden*. He liv'd in a Quarter of the Town that was at ſome diſtance, and the Queen being half dead when ſhe got thither, they put her to Bed, and preſently after brought up Supper. When ſhe was come to her ſelf, ſhe began to eat with a good Appetite,

petite, and after a while falling into her accuſtomed Rhodomontades, ſhe affirmed, That if they would but have let her appear at the Windows, ſhe ſhould have Thunderſtruck all this Rabble, which had loſt the Reſpect that was due to her.

The Prince of *Homburg* being informed of this Uproar, he (accompanied by ſome other Gentlemen of Note and Reputation) crouding themſelves among the Populace, endeavour'd to appeaſe them with fair Words, ſwearing they themſelves would be reveng'd on thoſe Dogs the Papiſts, that had been the Cauſe of this Scandal; But (ſaid they) the Queen knows nothing of all this, and will be the firſt that ſhall Chaſtize the Inventers, provided you commit no further Outrage, by forcing her Palace. But know, that if we do not make a ſpeedy Reparation for the Injuries done Her Majeſty, we ſhall not only draw upon us the Arms of *Sueden* and *Denmark*, but of all the Princes of the Empire, and of the *Emperour* himſelf, who will ſeverely revenge it. Theſe few Words pronounc'd with force, diſarm'd theſe Mutineers; to which alſo the Burghers being in Arms, did not a little con-

contribute. So the Seige was rais'd, and the next Week after the Magiſtrates conducted the Queen to her Palace in Triumph. And then this Princeſs was ſo bountiful as to disburſt Two thouſand Crowns among the Wounded, of which two died; yet after this hot Alarm, ſhe ſtaid not long in this City, but in a few Days ſet forward for *Rome*.

If I had been a brib'd Hiſtorian, I ſhould have extoll'd the undaunted Courage of the Queen upon this Occaſion to the very Skies, and aſſured the World, that ſhe gave the uttermoſt Proofs of an Heroick Courage, but then I ſhould have betray'd the Truth: For it is moſt certain, that never any Woman was more timerous than ſhe; tho' when the Danger was paſs'd, ſhe play'd the Braggadocio, and was infinitely pleas'd when her Sycophants affirmed, That neither *Alexander* nor *Caſar* had ever teſtified ſo much Bravery in the midſt of ſo many Dangers. So true it is, that Flattery can diſguiſe any thing, and that Princes take a great deal of Pleaſure in being impos'd upon that way.

This

This little Accident makes me remember another which happen'd a long while after at her Palace of *Laugara* in *Rome*, where ſhe expreſſed every whit as little Courage as here. There was a Linnen Cloath put up before the Window in the Lower Court, to keep off the violent Heat of the Sun. A little Boy of the Neighbourhood by chance throwing a Squib happened to ſet it on fire. This inconſiderable Flame did ſo diſtract her, that ſhe ran up and down from place to place like a Mad Woman, crying to the firſt ſhe met, and beging with her Hands folded together, to reſcue her out of the Fire, though there were People more than enough ready to extinguiſh it, and that it burnt nothing but the Linnen Cloath, which was not much bigger than an ordinary Table-Cloath: But the Danger being over, ſhe play'd the Gaſcon again among her Bravo's, as if ſhe her ſelf had ſav'd the whole City of *Rome* from being burnt.

Before ſhe went away from *Hamburgh*, ſhe gave a Magnificent Treat to many great Lords and Ladies which were in the *Swediſh* Intereſt, and the Marquis *Del Monte* was the Superintendant or Manager of this Feaſt. 'Twas pre-

prepared in a very ſpacious Tennis-Court, around the ſide whereof were high Scaffolds erected as if for the repreſenting a Comedy in a Theatre, on which a vaſt number of Spectators were placed to behold it. But I ſhall not endeavour to make a Deſcription thereof, nor ſpeak of the abundance and delicacy of the Meats, which were dreſs'd with excellent Skill, and adorned with the greateſt Curioſity imaginable. A more Eloquent Pen than mine would write nothing but truth, if he compar'd it with the moſt ſumptuous Banquets of the Antients; and eſpecially when he ſhould introduce the Inſtruments of Muſick, with the moſt Charming Voices, giving an Account of the moſt harmonious Conſorts perform'd by the skilfulleſt Hands; and deſcribe the great variety of coſtly Illuminations, which ſeem'd even to out-do the Sun it ſelf. After all there was a grand Ball, with variety of Dances, wherein the Cavaliers and Ladies acquitted themſelves with great Applauſe; and the Joy was in all reſpects perfectly compleat. But the Marquis *Del Monte* had more reaſon than any other, for beſides the Share he had of the Banquet, and the Entertainment

of

of his Eyes and Ears, he obtain'd Favours of ſome eaſie Ladies. But above all he forgot not his chief Ends, for *Clairet* aſſured me, That above an hundred Piſtoles of the Charge of this ſtuck to his Fingers. And to keep *Landini* ſtill at his Devotion, he took her by the Hand, and Danc'd with her as Maid of Honour to the Queen, tho' that Title was not at all her due, for ſhe was a very Contemptible Woman, whoſe ill Conditions and Scandalous Behaviour, would have driven her out of any Family that had been but a little more regular than that of Queen *Chriſtina*'s.

At laſt Her Majeſty came to *Rome* the third time, never to go away any more from thence. She arrived under the Pontificate of *Clement* IX. which may be called the Golden Age of our Times, as that of *Innocent* XI. the Age of *Iron*. For indeed under the Reign of *Roſpigliоſi*, the Court of *Rome* became ſo Magnificent, that it ſurpaſſed all others in Splendour and Gallantry. New Shows were to be ſeen every Day; one while we were diverted with the Entry of ſome Ambaſſador, another with a promotion of Cardinals; to Day entertain'd

tain'd with a Feaſt, and to Morrow with a Cavalcade. The Divertiſements ſucceeded one another in ſuch ſort, that commonly the Morning was ſpent in Devotion and Buſineſs, and after Dinner, which was generally very plentiful, and ſerv'd up with extraordinary Curioſity (for they begun then to follow the *French* Mode) they went to a Comedy, or Opera, where the Machines were very ſurprizing, or elſe heard ſome great Maſter's Compoſition of excellent Muſick, performed with variety both of Inſtruments and Voices. That Holy Father who was naturally Generous, and Beneficent, inſpir'd theſe good Qualities into his Nephews. Avarice had no Dominion over thoſe young Lords, as in the Reigns of other Popes; but on the contrary, they ſpent more than their Revenues would well allow, and yet they ſo well knew how to make their Intereſts in that Court, that they are now the richeſt Princes in *Rome*. The Ladies all dreſt very richly, and the *French* Modes being then introduc'd, they appear'd ſo charming in their Habits, that they could never afterwards reſolve to leave them, but have retained them to this very Day; ſo that at this

this preſent Luxury exceſſive at *Rome*. Nor did Love fail to make his Party, for many enrol'd themſelves under his Banners, hoping to make an happy Progreſs under ſo flouriſhing a Reign. But this good time did not endure long; for the untimely Death of that Pope blaſted many Intrigues which were but juſt in their Bud, becauſe this Accident changed both the Fortune and Intereſt of a great many People.

Clement X. being made Pope *Anno* 1671. after a Conclave of ſix Months, they reaſſum'd the ſame Courſe of living as before. For Cardinal *Altieri*, who govern'd the Eccleſiaſtical State under his Pontificate, after he had been adopted Nephew by this, did not put himſelf to the trouble of reforming any thing, provided he could but heap up Riches for himſelf, of which he was always known to be covetous enough; ſo that there was a ſufficient Liberty for People to ruine themſelves by exceſſive Profuſion. *Don Gaſper*, who by his Wife was the Pope's Nephew, tho' he were not of ſo eaſie and ſo generous a Spirit, as they of the Family of *Roſpigliosi*, appear'd yet very ſplendid and magnificent, and the Ladies were more glori-

ous

ous than ever. So that in the beginning of this Reign there was nothing to be seen but Rejoycings at *Rome*; Promotions of Cardinals, and the pompous Entries of Ambaſſadors. The firſt was that of *Portugal* which was very ſolemn, being performed in a moſt ſtately Cavalcade, by reaſon it was an Ambaſſade of Obedience; that is to ſay, it was the firſt time the King of *Portugal* ſent an Embaſſy to *Rome*, ſince his Family had reaſcended that Throne; and it was of no ſmall Glory for him to be acknowledged by the Pope among the number of Crown'd Heads.

After this was the Entry of the *French* Ambaſſador the Duke *D'Etree*'s, which was no leſs ſplendid than the former, though it was only made in Coaches, there being at leaſt five hundred, drawn by ſix Horſes each, attended with very rich Liveries; but above all that of the Ambaſſador was moſt glorious, for the Family of the *D'Etree*'s took great pleaſure to appear magnificent and pompous upon all Occaſions which they had to expreſs their Zeal for the Service and Honour of their grand Monarch. Then alſo the publick Comedies were repreſented at *Torre di Nona* by the Contri-

vance

vance of Count *Alibert* and his Company, during the Carnaval time. A ſumptuous Box was there fitted up for the Queen with extraordinary magnificence, whereon neither gilding nor any other Ornaments were ſpared, and it was hung with Damask, and other rich Stuffs adorned with fine Lace and Fringes of Gold. This Box might contain fifteen or ſixteen Perſons, and there were always ten or a dozen Cardinals who went to the Comedy to Honour and Accompany the Queen in her Box, as they did alſo in her glazed Gallery, which was near to the Paſſage into St. *Mark*'s place, at th[e] [c]orner of the Street called St. *Roma* [w]here ſhe had hir'd a Palace to ſee [t]e Maſqueraders paſs by, with w[hi]ch all that place is uſually fill'd during the Carnaval.

The Queen tho' ſhe was at that time above forty Years of Age, yet continued very brisk and gay, and ſo ſoon as the Theatre was open'd and the Comedians acted, as they did very well in the Opinions of all; Her Majeſty caus'd Women Singers to be brought amongſt them, which Charm'd the Ears of the Auditors by the ſweetneſs of their Voices, as they did their Eyes by the agreeable-

ableneſs of their Perſons, and richneſs of their Habits.

Among the Cardinals that frequented the Queens Box, Cardinal *Benedetto Odeſchalchi* never failed ſo much as one Night being there during all the five Years, the Queen maintain'd her ſaid Box in the Theatre, but after the Elevation of this very Cardinal to the Popedom, he changing his Humour and Conduct both at once, endeavour'd to deſtroy the Play-houſe, wherein he had formerly taken ſo much pleaſure. And to bring it the more effectually to paſs, he made a rigorous Edict, which yet remains in force, by which he forbids all Women to Rehearſe any Part upon the Stage, he liking rather that young Muſitians ſhould play thoſe Parts, and be cloathed in their Habits contrary to the expreſs prohibition of the Sacred Scripture, which forbids Men to wear Womens Apparel, as being an Abomination before God. The Novelty of this Spectacle drew ſuch vaſt numbers of People thither, that they had much ado to get Entrance for Money. For at that time was a great Concourſe of Strangers of Quality there, who had brought with them the Neweſt Modes from abroad, which

which the *Roman* Cavaliers imitated, and made themſelves all fine and gallant.

There was one among the reſt who was of the firſt Rank, and ſurpaſs'd them all in richneſs of Cloaths, his Stature was middle ſized, the Features of his Face rarely compos'd, his Eyes black and as lively as thoſe of the fineſt *Roman* Ladies, he had a happy Phyſiognomy, and a Head of Hair which made him one of the handſomeſt Gentlemen in *Italy*. He Sung and Play'd rarely well upon divers ſorts of Inſtruments, was a great lover of Poetry, and had alſo himſelf compos'd three fine Pieces. Happy indeed, if with all theſe Advantages he would have Correſponded with the Ladies Deſires, for there was more than one who were willing to have put him to the Proof; but he made no anſwer to their Attempts, as we ſhall preſently acquaint you. He was then in the Flower of his Youth, being entred into the twenty third Year of his Age, and his Blood boyl'd in his Veins, which made him appear all Spirit.

The Queen ſeeing this young Lord in a Box juſt over againſt her, as he was making a profound Bow to her, immediately

diately felt an extraordinary Emotion, by looking upon him, and having learnt his Quality and perſonal Merit, it augmented the Eſteem which this Princeſs began to have for him, and ſhe could not forbear caſting her Eyes towards his Box very often. A little while after one of Her Majeſties *Valets de Chambre*, who had been an old experienc'd Gameſter at Love Intrigues, hearing the Queen one Day ſpeak many kind things of this young Prince, and at the ſame time ſay, She had a mind to have her Hair cut, took his opportunity to tell her; *Madam* (ſaid he) *the Prince* Don Benigno (for that was the Name of this young Lord) *has a* Valet de Chambre *a Perriwig-maker, who cuts Hair rarely well.* The Queen raviſht with the Thoughts of having an occaſion to ſpeak well of a Perſon for whom ſhe had ſo ſtrong an Inclination, ſent for the Perriwig-maker, who performing his Office according to her Deſire, after having ſpoken very advantagiouſly of his Maſter, gave him ten Piſtols. One of the Queens Officers was afterwards with the Prince, who told him, That he was extreamly joyful that the Queen had ſo far honour'd him as to make uſe of one of his

Servants; to which the Officer anſwered in few words, but ſetting forth the Queens admirable Qualities in the choiceſt Expreſſions he could invent. The Prince mightily extoll'd her, and Her Majeſty was inform'd of all he ſaid to her Advantage, and was infinitely pleaſed with it.

Another time ſhe ſent to the Prince to deſire him to let her ſee one of his Perriwigs; ſhe tried it on, and made a ſhort one of the ſame colour, being of a fair and bright colour, which ſhe wore many times afterwards. When the Queen was in private among her Women, there was nothing to be heard but the Praiſes of *Don Benigno*, and no other Subject could afford her ſo much pleaſure as that. One of her Maids a great Favourite at that time, who was very handſome and well ſhap'd, call'd *Signora Octavia*, hearing her ſpeak ſo often in the praiſe of this young Prince, fell in Love with him, but not daring to diſcover her Affection, ſhe conſum'd and pin'd away. The Queen was troubled, and ſeeing her thus Languiſh without knowing the Cauſe, oblig'd her to go and take the Country Air. *Octavia* choſe to go to *Fraſcati*, as being one of the moſt

moſt delicious Places about *Rome*, where the greateſt part of the Cardinals, and Gentlemen of *Rome* had Vineyards and Houſes of Pleaſure, which look'd like ſo many Enchanted Palaces. *Don Benigno* had one there which was none of the leaſt, and he was actually himſelf there, enjoying the Pleaſures of the delicate Seaſon of the Spring. The Queen gave *Octavia* two Calaſhes cover'd, and two Lacquies; and ſhe brought her Mother, Siſter, and ſome other Women along with her, and for *Valet de Chambre* ſhe would have that Intriguing Purvoyour who had been employ'd in the Queens Amours. Arriving at *Fraſcati*, they alighted in a private place, becauſe they would incommode no Body, and the Train ſtay'd at the Stables of the delicious Vineyard of *Aldobrandina*, where they were well receiv'd becauſe of the Queens Liveries, by the Orders of Madam the Princeſs *di Roſſano*. *Achelmere* (for that is the Name of the Purveyor) took care of preparing the Dinner, while the Women went to Maſs at the Capuchins, and in the way met *Don Benigno* by chance. *Octavia* turn'd her ſelf aſide, that ſhe might hide the Bluſhes which appear'd in her Face,

though they render'd her yet more beautiful. There was only a ſingle Salute on either ſide, and after the walking of a Turn or two, they return'd to a ſlender Dinner at their Lodging; for in *Italy* People are very Sober, when they live at their own Expences. However, ſhe eat with a good Appetite, and reproach'd *Aſhemere* for being ſo ſparing. While theſe things were doing, a Footman came from the Prince, who brought in a Man that carried a great Vermilion Baſon, whoſe outſide was gilt with Gold, full of moſt exquiſite Viands, and deſired to ſpeak with the Conductor. *Achelmere* preſented himſelf, and the Footman told him, That the Prince *Don Lenigno* had ſent him that ſmall Trifle to make merry with the Company, and to drink his Health; and at the ſame time another Perſon appear'd, who was loaded with twelve Bottles of moſt delicate Wine. The Regale was moſt agreeably received, and they thanked the Prince in moſt ſubmiſſive and acknowledging Terms. *Octavia* caſt a glance upon the Conductor, as a ſign that the Regale was for her ſake; and after having well enjoy'd themſelves, and repos'd for ſome Hours, they had a Mind to go to the

the Vineyard of *Aldobrandina*, or *Belvedere*, as well for the Walk, as to see the wonderful Cascades, or Falls of Water, which cause so much Admiration to Strangers. Passing by a Vault which leads to the first Tarrass to avoid the Sun, they met *Don Benigno*, who was walking there in Company. *Achelmere* made him a profound Reverence, and thanked him for his Regale in the Name of the Company, who partook with him in the Obligations they all had to so generous a Lord. The Prince smil'd and said, It was only a Trifle, and did not deserve to be mention'd; that he would have offer'd the Ladies an Apartment in his Palace, with all necessary Conveniences, but that he had not done it, for fear of burthening them with incommodious Civilities, seeing they would think themselves more at Liberty, than either with him, or the Queen, whose Officers should be welcome to him without the least Complement, whensoever it pleas'd Her Majesty. *Octavia* addressing her self to the Conductor, told him, He was very happy to be so much consider'd by his Excellency. The Prince answer'd, That he had a Value for them all in general.

Do not envy my Happineſs, Madam, (ſays *Alchelmere*) *'tis only for your ſake that his Excellence conſiders us, never Prince had ſo great a Regard for the Ladies as himſelf, but at this time I am in poſſeſſion of a great part of his Bounty, having had the Honour of being his Servant a long time ago.* This was ſpoke only *en paſſant*; but the glances of the Eye have a more paſſionate Language: But the Prince immediately left them, in order to rejoyn his Company, who were already got at a conſiderable diſtance. After they had ſeen the Vineyard and the Caſcades, they return'd to *Rome* the ſame Night; and the Queen who would know all the particulars of the Voyage, was extreamly pleas'd with the Prince's Gallantry. She was the beſt Miſtreſs in the World, when ſhe was in a good Humour, and ſhe ſeem'd to take it ill, that her Maids had not ſtay'd three or four days in the Country. Two days after the Prince came to *Rome*, and ſent to ſeek *Archelmere*, to ask him who that Maid was, for whom he already felt ſo ſtrong an Inclination. *Achelmere* told him, it was *Signora Octavia*, That ſhe was one of the Queen's Confidents; adding withal, that ſhe was charm'd with the Merit of

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ſo Accompliſh'd a Prince. The Glances ſhe often gave him at ſeveral other Meetings, caus'd him perfectly to underſtand it. Words are ſeldom made uſe of in *Italy*; and they can manage an Intrigue well enough without 'em. But the Prince, who ſhew'd ſo much Ardor at firſt, relented preſently, knowing that *Octavia* would conſent without much Entreaty, though ſhe had taken precautions not to ſuffer an immediate Shipwrack. However it was, ſome odd Reflection or other chang'd the Prince's mind, for he went to the Rendeſvouze, and after that, *Octavia* conceiv'd an implacable Spight againſt him, whilſt her Introducer was Confounded, and gain'd nothing but Hatred on both ſides.

On the other hand, the Queen, who as yet knew not the Prince's cold temper, gave him him ſufficient Hints, both by Signs and dark Speeches, as ſhe found Opportunity, that himſelf was the cauſe if he were not Happy. They had much ado to aſſure him, that he might diſpoſe of the Queen's Perſon, ſeeing he poſſeſs'd her Heart already; but he would never paſs the bounds of the moſt innocent Gallantry. The more the Obſtacles were broke, the more reſerv'd he

became, though afar off out of Danger, he teſtified a great deal of Ardour to meet the Queen's Flame, who deſpair'd to make any thing of him, by reaſon of his Fearfulneſs and over great Reſpect. He was offer'd what Security he pleas'd, that the Queen her ſelf ſhould come *incognito* to what Place he pleas'd, and that ſhe ſhould be at his Diſpoſal; but the very conceit made him Abhor it. At laſt the Queen was perfectly aſham'd to explain her ſelf too clearly; and the Rage to find her ſelf Slighted, converted her Love into implacable Hate; and if ſhe did not take a ſolemn Revenge, it was to be look'd upon only as an effect of her Goodneſs: So dangerous a thing it is to be either Lov'd or Hated by Great Perſons.

If the Prince had refus'd the Queen only, it might have been ſaid, That the fear of falling into the ſame Misfortune with the Marquiſs *Monaldeſchi*, had hinder'd him. But he has alſo deſpis'd the Fires of many other Ladies, who have accus'd him of Impotence, or a Timidity unworthy of his Rank: For the World does not eſteem a Perſon who contains himſelf within a Principle of Religion. We have ſeen how his Courage

Courage fail'd him in his Intrigues with *Octavia*; and we shall find presently, that he shewed no greater, in the case of a fair Dutchess, who had all the Qualities requisite to make a Lady Belov'd. 'Twas said, that Prince *Columbieri* had Lov'd her a little before *Don Benigno* had settled his Affections there, and that he was very well satisfied. *Don Benigno* finding the place vacant when he enterpriz'd the Conquest of *Diana*'s Heart, for that was the Name of the Dutchess; first made use of a Porter to a numerous Community, who had Victory for their Arms, but not finding him fit for Management, employ'd a French Merchant that liv'd near to St. *Augustin*'s, because he Serv'd the Dutchess, and was very capable to manage an Amorous Intrigue. After a thousand Caresses, he open'd his Design to him, and promis'd him Mountains and Wonders as Lovers us'd to do, and put the conduct of his Affairs into his Hand.

As soon as this Confident came to the Dutchess, under pretence of bringing her a new *French* Stuff, he fell on the reading of a Billet while her Back was turn'd, but suffer'd himself to be Sur-

priz'd. The Dutcheſs ask'd what it was? The Merchnat, who was Familiar with her, told her it was the Pleaſanteſt Paper in the World, and that it was a Billet of Love in behalf of the Perſon he Eſteem'd moſt. I'm reſolv'd I will ſee it, ſaid *Diana*. Hold, Madam, anſwers this rare Merchant, or otherwiſe you will be my Confident. She ſnatch'd it from him, and read theſe Words. *Madam, the Prince* Don Benigno *Adores you, and has charg'd me to let you underſtand it; I could wiſh that for the repoſe of his Love, you would hear it from himſelf; I am ſure you would take Pity of him, if you knew the Torment he indures for you, and if you will give me the liberty I will acquaint you with the reſt by word of Mouth.* I muſt own that this confident Tradeſman was as fit an Inſtrument as could be thought of for this Affair, provided he ran no Riſque; for a Woman is always pleas'd when ſhe is perſwaded ſhe is Amiable. This Princeſs, whoſe Curioſity carry'd her to read this Billet, believing it to be another thing, was Surpriz'd at this new way of hearing her ſelf to be Belov'd, and became as a Roſe, remaining perfectly Silent for ſome time in a Confuſion, which

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ſhew'd a ſtrong agitation of her Mind.

The Duke her Husband entred the Chamber at the ſame time, to ſee the Stuff the Merchant had brought before they cut it, and ſeeing the Dutcheſs in a great Trouble, ask'd her if ſhe were not ſatisfied with ſo fine a Stuff, which appear'd to him to be very Rich. She teſtified her Content, but ſaid ſhe would willingly have it all, becauſe the Princeſs of *Sonino* had a Mantua and Petticoat very like that which ſhe had before. The Secret, ſaith the Merchant, is to take whole Piece, for I aſſure you there is no more ſuch in *Rome*. *Claude* has Reaſon, ſays the Duke, and I would counſel you to buy the whole Piece, if it be not too Dear; as to the reſt, I believe he will be Faithful. Yes *Monſigneur*, ſays the Merchant, *Madam* may reckon that I will be Secret in that, and every other thing, and at the foot of the Account 30 Piſtols, more or leſs ought not to hinder her Excellence from taking a Stuff which is the moſt in Mode, and eſpecially when there will be none like it for a long time. See what an Admirable Fellow this is, ſays the good Husband, buy it Madam, but take care to ſee the Stuff well Meaſured.

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There was nothing elſe worthy of Remark which paſs'd in this firſt Interview; and the Merchant went immediately to give Don *Benigno* an account of his Negotiation. The Prince finding his Declaration very Ingenious, Embraced the Merchant, and told him, that he had begun very well, and pray'd him to continue it till ſuch time as he was Happy. Two days after, he came again to bring her the Lining of her Garment, and ſhe had been impatient to ſee him; but by a Slyneſs peculiar to Ladies, when they have a regard to Decency, ſhe expected when he would begin. Being then alone with her, he deſir'd to know of her, what effect his Billet had produc'd; She ſat down upon her Couch, and ſaid, with a ſeeming Careleſneſs, that ſhe made no account of it; and that ſhe was unwilling to embark her ſelf in an Amour with a young Man who was over Bold, that preſum'd too much of himſelf, and becauſe he was a fine Youth, believ'd himſelf a *Narciſſus*. The Merchant aſſur'd her, that the Prince had an inviolable and inſeperable Affection for her; and that as his Paſſion could not be greater, ſo his Reſpect and Fidelity would not

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be the leſs. Upon theſe aſſurances, ſhe told the Merchant, Monſieur *Claude*, ſaid ſhe, I beg of you not to Flatter me with any hope, till I have made Trial, for under pretence of guarding all the meaſures that are neceſſary, I ſhall find whether he will perſevere or no She then confeſſed to the Merchant, that ſhe had ſome inclination for him, and that he ſhould not be unhappy upon her Account.

I believe ſhe had reaſon to ſay this, for ſhe perfectly knew the Perſon of whom ſhe ſpake; for without doubt, if his Vigour had anſwer'd his Preſumption, he had wherewithal to pleaſe the Ladies. However, he was yet ſuch a Novice, that he thought 'twas ſufficient to tell a Lady he was Amorous of her, to oblige her to have the ſame Paſſion for him. But he found in the Perſon of *Diana*, a Woman that knew how to teach People Manners, and inſtruct him how to Live.

One day Don *Benigno* being at *Freſcati*, was Attack'd by three Ladies, who believing themſelves Handſome, ſet with their Tongues very briskly upon him. One of them was the Marchioneſs *Nari*, who told him in Railery, That as Beautiful

tiful and fine Shap'd as he was, he had found the Ladies Cruel; that they had hear'd news of his Affairs, and were oblig'd to that beautiful Perſon to whom he paid his Vows, for preſerving in him a reſpect for the Sex. He was ſtung with theſe Words, but kept ſtill to his Indifference for the Ladies; nevertheleſs his vanity being excited, he was reſolv'd to make uſe of all things to make himſelf Beloved of *Diana*. And he did very well at firſt, for after he had given ſome Signs of Perſeverance, he made a Preſent to the Dutcheſs, of a Silk Stuff with a blew Ground, ſtrip'd with Silver Columns, interwoven with moſt beautiful Leaves Flowers both of Gold and Silver, to a great Value. To conceal this from the Duke, the Dutcheſs made him believe that the Merchant was content with the third part in Money, and for the reſt he would take Wheat and Wine, at ſo much *per* Month, till 'twas all paid. The Duke was very glad of it; for in *Rome* the Great Lords have oftentimes but little Money, becauſe they Farm a great part of their Eſtates themſelves, and have but few Tenants that pay them in ready Money.

The Dutcheſs after this, became a little more Familiar with Don *Benigno*; and the Carneval being come, the Prince often went out in Maſquerade, wearing a ſhort Cloak furr'd with Ermines, with a ſmall Cuff edg'd with Bone-lace, and a red Ribban on his Head, which was the Signal to make himſelf known by. *Diana* was in the Balcony as the Train went along, and look'd upon him with a ſweet and Languiſhing Eye; and they ſaw one another at Comedies, and danc'd together at Balls; but this afforded only an opportunity of ſpeaking ſome few Words by Stealth, the Italian Jealouſie not permitting a regular Converſation at ſuch times. He would willingly have obtain'd ſome Favour from *Diana*, but ſhe had a mind to make him value the thing, however, ſhe promis'd that ſhe would find an opportunity in the Lent time to ſatisfie his Deſires.

The firſt Week being come, the Rendeſvouze was agreed upon, which was to be in a Garden near St. *Sabina*, upon Mount *Aventine*, into which there is an entrance at two different Gates. Don *Benigno* came there in a cloſe Coach, which was left about Fifty Paces from the Privy Gate. The Dutcheſs who came by

by the great Gate, receiv'd him very agreeably, while his Confident entertain'd her Aſſociate, till ſuch time they had inſenſibly got a good diſtance from them. *Diana* who for this time had a mind only to Amuſe the Prince, order'd her Follower not to loſe ſight of her; and ſhe oblig'd her, though ſhe kept her ſelf out of Call. The Converſation laſted about half an Hour with equal Satisfaction. Don *Benigno* was very well content with this firſt Interview; but as in *Italy* they have but little liberty of ſeeing one another, he deſir'd the favour to write to her, and the pleaſure of Receiving her Anſwers. *Diana* made a great difficulty of this, and ſaid, there was leſs danger in ſatisfying a Lover, by yielding the laſt Favours, than to write to him and receive his Letters; becauſe if a Lover ſhould boaſt of Privacies with his Miſtreſs, (as it often happen'd) ſhe had power to deny it all; but as for Letters, the Characters being once known, they were certain and undeniable Teſtimonies. At laſt, by the means of Prayers and Intreaties, he obtain'd ſo far as to have Billets, upon condition he ſent them back in his Anſwers. All theſe Difficulties being Surmounted, the con-

concluſion of ſome twenty Letters were made by a Rendeſvouz with *Diana* at a certain Hour, at which Don *Benigno* did not fail.

He came very late at Night with his Confident, and they enter'd by the Back-Gate of the Lady's Palace. They wrap'd their Faces in their Cloaks, and mounted a pair of Stairs without ſeeing any Body, till they came to the uttermoſt Lanthorn, where they found a Gentleman, Don *Arimatheia*, Brother to *Diana*, who looking upon them a little, went away, and ſaid Laughing, *God ſend you good Luck, my Friends.* Being come into a little Gallery, which led into *Clarice*'s Chamber, *Diana*'s Follower: They were not yet at the end of their Troubles; for having ſhut up their dark Lanthorns, they knew not where they went. The Merchant, who knew the Paſſages, went firſt, groaping the way, but thought he ſhould have been Strangled by the Prince, becauſe he pull'd him ſo hard by the Cloak. At laſt, after a Labyrinth of turnings, they entred into a little Chamber, where the firſt thing they ſaw, was the Head of a Bed, and a Crucifix upon it Ten Foot high. Above It was a ſmall Picture of

St.

St. *Francis*, encompaſs'd with a Chaplet about an Ell long, and the Bed was not above two Foot high from the Ground.

Don *Benigno* had put on a black Perriwig inſtead of the light Hair'd one, which he always wore, and Combing it, expected when the Nymph would arrive, aſſuring himſelf, that he was prepar'd for the Combat, and carried good Arms to attack and batter the Fort in a moſt regular manner. A little after, the Dutcheſs appear'd at the further end of the Gallery, and came brighter and more ſparkling than the Moon; ſhe had a Wax Candle in her hand, her Habit looſe and white, and her Head dreſs'd very advantagiouſly. She had a fine Knot of red Ribbands on her Breaſt, which being but half diſcover'd, gave a great luſtre to one of the fineſt Necks in the World. Don *Benigno* was ſomewhat in a Maze at her Approach, till after the firſt Compliments were over: Then the Merchant retir'd, leaving the Lovers at full liberty to do what they pleas'd. But all paſs'd in Ceremonies, Don *Benigno* knew not how to ſay any other thing to *Diana*, than that he died for Love of her, and that though ſhe left him at liberty to enterprize any

thing,

thing, yet he durſt not attempt what he moſt deſir'd. So going away without doing what was expected. He was afterwards aſham'd of his Baſhfulneſs, and had a great mind to repair his fault: But a ſecond Audience which was agree'd to, did nothing but divulge the Secret; ſo that Prince *Columbiere* having got the Wind of it, procured ſix Fellows to wait for Don *Benigno* under the Portal of the Palace *D'Eſtre*; where preſenting a dark Lanthorn to his Face, that they might know him, they retir'd preſently, as if they had been the Round, though one of them follow'd him at a diſtance, as far as *Diana*'s Palace. There Don *Benigno* got admittance, but was on purpoſe Baffled as before: From which the Prince *Columbiere* did not fail upon the firſt occaſion to congratulate him upon the number of his Miſtreſſes, which he told him, hindred his being able to ſatisfie them all.

This join'd to the Advice he had that the Prince *Columbieri* ſaw *Diana* again, renew'd his Paſſion, Jealouſie working a more powerful Effect upon him than Love. He complain'd of *Diana* that ſhe preferr'd an old Man before a Youth full of Vigour, and ready to ſatisfie the

the Ladies at all times, whereas the Prince *Colombieri* muſt have eight Days to prepare himſelf. Theſe Complaints were carried to the Dutcheſs by the Merchant, word for word; to whom ſhe anſwer'd, that *Don Benigno* was worſe than the Prince *Columbieri*; for, ſaid ſhe, if he muſt have eight Days to prepare himſelf, I have given that Poultron more than three Months, and he has always fail'd me in the occaſion. Madam, reply'd the Merchant, that may happen through too much Ardour, as it did in *France* to the Count *de Guiche*. Fie, fie, anſwer'd *Diana*, that's a meer Trifle; for though it may once happen ſo, yet a Man of Vigour is never more diſtinguiſhed then upon ſuch occaſions. The Merchant knew not what to anſwer in defence of ſo ill a cauſe. Believe me honeſt *Claud* (purſued ſhe) your Friend is not like the Scorpions which ſting with their Tail; for he ſtings only with his Tongue; and we ought to diſtruſt thoſe great Boaſters, which make a fair Appearance, and are good for nothing. The Merchant then to divert her, ſaid, Madam, a Man of an indifferent Stature, large Shoulders, brawny Limbs, and full of Muſcles, that

that has black Hair, a brown Visage, and full of Vigour, is 35 Years old, with Eyes sparkling and fill'd with Fire: And as to the rest, though the Man be not handsome, is he good for nothing? Very good, said she, that is as we love; 'tis for Women to be fair, and for Men to be brisk, and methinks you do very much resemble that Man. She lay then upon her fine downy Couch, with her Breasts naked, in a very tempting posture, when at that instant one came and scratch'd at the door to give notice that Cardinal *Colonna* was below and come to make her a Visit. She arose in haste, took her Coif, and went to the Cardinal, while the Merchant slipp'd into a Closet, and from thence into the Wardrobe, and afterwards went his way by a private pair of Stairs. He went then to *Don Benigno* to tell him that if he did not use *Diana* better, it would oblige her to renew her Friendship with Prince *Colombieri*; but he took the thing wrong, and made use of this pretence to break off with *Diana*. He said he would not have the Leavings of Prince *Colombieri*, who was the Town-Bull of *Rome*, and had certain Distempers which he should

be ſorry to contract; yet the Prince *Colombieri* was very well and in perfect Health; ſo was the Dutcheſs alſo freſh, and ſound as a Roach.

To be ſhort, *Don Benigno* went to the Dutcheſs no more, and, to ſpite her, kept one of her Letters, which he was reſolved never to reſtore. All the Revenge ſhe could take, was to laugh at him with the Queen, with whom ſhe was very great: When they ſpoke of him together, it was with the uttermoſt Contempt; they treated him as the moſt wretched Man living, and ever loaded him with all the Jeers and Affronts they could invent. And the Queen who took a great liberty of Speech, had certain Expreſſions for him in *French*, which ſhe was aſham'd to ſpeak there in the *Italian* Language, becauſe thoſe Terms do not make ſuch an Impreſſion in a ſtrange Language as in our own, told *Diana* one day ſhe had found a Nick-name whieh agreed with him beſt of any, which was *Limberham* or Fumbler. The Dutcheſs applauded it, and both in concert cried, Let the Devil take the Fumbler.

Don Benigno durſt come no more to the Queen's, though he us'd to go thi-

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ther very often, and particularly when ſhe kept her Academy, whither alſo the fineſt Wits in *Rome* reſorted; and he took the pretence of being unwilling to have any Converſation with the Marquis *del Monte*, whom the Queen had made great Maſter of her Horſe; and, to ſpite her Majeſty, he oblig'd his Siſter the Princeſs *Altamira*, to turn away the Page ſhe had, who was Brother to Seignora *Octavia*, and which ſhe had taken out of reſpect to the Queen.

But Love was not the only amuſement of this Royal Lady; Chymiſtry was her more ſerious buſineſs, though ſhe had loſt conſiderable Sums of Money by it at *Hamburgh*; and particularly with one *Borry* a Chymiſt of *Milan*, who is now condemned to perpetual Impriſonment for Hereſie in the Caſtle of St. *Angelo*, and who return'd her only Cinders and Smoak for 2 or 3 thouſand Crowns. The unfortunate Experiments ſhe had often made, excited her to go forward in the ſearch of the Philoſopher's Stone. As ſoon as ſhe arriv'd at *Rome*, ſhe built a great Laboratory in her Palace, and conſumed the beſt part of her ready Caſh, not ſo much in Coals

Coals and Ingredients, as the Roguery of the People ſhe employ'd in this miſerable Trade; for 'tis ordinary with great People to be robb'd by thoſe they put the moſt Confidence in. Cardinal *Azzolini*, who would not openly oppoſe himſelf to this her predominant Paſſion, preſented a Chymiſt to her, who was named *Bandiere* the Son of an Apothecary, in a little City of *Romagna* near to *Bologne*, thinking that by this means he had ſufficiently engag'd her to keep within ſome reaſonable bounds, himſelf pretending to follow the Queen's Inclination for Chymiſtry. But though this Man render'd an exact Account of all things to appearance, the Cardinal eaſily found out a great deal of Roguery, ſeeing there was ſcarce a Month paſs'd, wherein the Expence upon Chymiſtry, which they call'd Diſtillation, did not amount to three, and ſometimes four thouſand Livres. And notwithſtanding his Pretences, he had only ſome Secrets in Chymiſtry of little uſe, and ſuſtain'd himſelf upon nothing but incoherent Tattle, and fabulous Receipts of fine Experiments, which he had never made. In a little time he had the Artifice to inſinuate himſelf very much

much into the Queen's Favour, by his unreasonable Complaisance, so easie was she to be govern'd by People of no Account. But this way of Proceeding did not always succeed; for sometimes she beat him, and handled him very ill more ways than one. 'Tis impossible to reckon up all the Rogueries he had done in his Life; but above all, while he was supported by the Queen: And yet notwithstanding the ill Treatment he sometimes met with, he made bold with all Mankind, except the Queen whom he was forc'd to flatter, and such as durst shew their Teeth; for to these he was very humble, being the greatest Coward in the World, though he always went arm'd with Pistols and Bayonnets. He was a Lyar to the utter-Point, and a Traitor to that did him good, as well as those that hurt him; very much addicted to Women, and almost always drunk when he had no business with the Queen.

After the Heat of this Princess was a little abated; (that is to say, after three or four Years,) she was willing to content the Cardinal, and bargain with *Bandiere* to undertake this Distillation at two hundred Pistols *per* Month,

which he was oblig'd to accept of; for beſides this he got Cloaths, with fifteen Crowns wages *per* Month, and many other little Profits; but he committed ſo many Rogueries, that he muſt have a good memory that is able to reckon them. Thoſe who underſtand any thing of Chymiſtry, know what abundance of Utenſils and Inſtruments are requiſite to ſuch Undertakings, not only in Coals and Furnaces, but in divers pieces of Earth and Glaſs, Vials, Alembicks, Mortars, and other Veſſels of Earth and Metal. But the greateſt Expence is in Drugs, Quick-ſilver, Litharge, Lead, and a thouſand other Ingredients which they pretend to convert into Gold. The Queen would always go her ſelf, to calcine, filter, diſtill, and to find out that which was never found. The miſerable *Bandiere* was the Jeſt of the Queen and Cardinal, who being willing to put the Queen into a diſguſt of this Trade, was very glad to ſee all things go croſs: So that *Bondiere* paſſed his Days with trouble enough, but the Nights brought an heap of Miſeries upon him; for then the Queen being at leiſure, would keep him lock'd for ſix or ſeven hours toge-

ther

ther at his Furnaces; and becauſe ſhe could never meet with what ſhe ſought for, ſhe would throw at his head any thing that came next to her Hand, and ſometimes would give him good rough blows with a Faggot-ſtick.

At laſt the Queen perceiv'd that the Cardinal only laugh'd at theſe her Fancies; yet becauſe ſhe would not break with *Bandiere*, but keep ſome meaſures with him, ſhe ordered him to make Bills of what he wanted for Manual Operation, imagining ſhe ſhould ſave ſomething, when he had no more the management of the Money: So *Bandiere* went for his Powders and other Drugs to the Druggiſt: But at the Year's end the Cardinal diſcovered that it came all to the ſame Expence. Well the Queen left off Chymiſtry for a time, becauſe her Rents from *Sweden* came not ſo current as formerly, by reaſon of the War. Nevertheleſs ſhe pleaſed her ſelf with making little Experiments, and to draw Salts from many things. I have ſeen *Bandiere* bring her little Bits of Glaſs found in the digging of Caves, and in the Chanels of *Rome*, and other like Trinkets, and the Queen would ſometimes commend him, and ſome-

times again reward him with a Box on the Ear. This miſerable Wretch was ſometimes ſo vex'd, that he would call her a thouſand Fools, and yet no body durſt tell the Queen of it, becauſe ſhe thought they bore Malice againſt him; and that the Reports which were told of him were nothing but ill Will, on purpoſe to deſtroy him. But after all this unhappy Man's Sufferings, he made all others ſuffer in their turns, becauſe he would be always whiſpering Stories to the Queen, having the Priviledge at all times to enter into any place where ſhe was. Thus he became the Protector of all the Villainies that were committed in her Majeſty's Quarter; and being in League with the Marquis *Del Monte*, wou'd diſcover to him all that paſs'd between this Princeſs and the Cardinal; which was eaſie for him to do, knowing all corners of the Palace where he might hide himſelf to hearken. The Cardinal being enraged againſt him, and grown almoſt deſperate, ſhewed him a Trick of Kindneſs on purpoſe to deſtroy him. He begun to careſs him afreſh, and inſinuated into the Queen to put into his Hands the Alms of an hundred Crowns a-Months, which

ſhe

ſhe caus'd to be diſtributed to the poor Families of *Rome*. He was tranſported with this pious Office; but he compoſed himſelf after ſuch a manner in the doing of it, that the Cardinal had quickly an Opportunity to revenge himſelf of the Vexations he had given him. For this Rogue in diſtributing the Alms, inſtead of giving it to honeſt Families according to the Queen's Intention, gave it to People of an ill Life to ſatiate his infamous Paſſions. And becauſe he was oblig'd to ſhew Certificates of Poverty ſign'd by the Pariſh-Prieſts, he counterfeited them, or elſe applied himſelf to Women and Maids of Reputation to procure true Certificates from them; and he ſo order'd it that he ſubborn'd the greater part of them at the 2d. or 3d. Viſit of Charity, to give them an Alms in ſecret. Thoſe who would not abandon themſelves to his Luſts, were depriv'd of the Alms; and he gave in his Report that they were People of a ſcandalous Reputation, and did not deſerve the Queen's Charity. They murmur'd and complain'd to the Cardinal, but he would take no Cognizance of the Matter, craftily ſending both the poor

People and the Pariſh-Prieſts to make their Complaint to the Queen. A zealous Curate, one of thoſe whom they call the Pope's *Barboni*, went boldly one Day to find her Majeſty; but whether it was that the Prieſt did not play his part well, or that the Queen would not take notice of his weakneſs, and her ill choice of *Bandiere* for her private *Almoner*, the *Barboni* was chid, and *Bandiere* denying his ill Actions was believ'd upon his Word. But as he was a Wretch whom no Politicks could make wiſe, he went on at ſuch a rate, that Pope *Innocent* XI. had Complaints againſt him from all ſides.

Cardinal *Azzolini* going to an Audience of the Holy Father, found that he was angry, and he told him of it in ſuch a manner, that the Cardinal could not forbear writing a Letter to the Queen about thoſe Complaints which were made againſt *Bandiere*. The Letter was brought unhappily at a time when the Queen was embroil'd with the Cardinal about other Affairs, inſomuch that it was not well receiv'd; nay, on the contrary, ſhe gave it to *Bandiere* out of ſpite to the Cardinal, ſaying,

saying, *Bandiere* these wicked Priests would ruine thee with me; but laugh at both of them, for I will always take care of thee..

Bandiere kneeling down before the Queen, with Crocodiles Tears implor'd her protection, and afterwards shew'd the Cardinal's Letter to all the World, and gave him all the ill Language imaginable. The poor Cardinal seeing the Queen had thus sacrific'd him, made as if he never minded it; and because of his Heirship to the Queen, suffer'd both this and a great deal more from others, as well as *Bandiere*. But the Cardinal's Heirs were well reveng'd upon this Wretch, and reduced him to that pass that he perished for want, after having been the reproach and scorn of all that knew him. For as he had a wicked Tongue, and had offended every body, he found no Friend in time of need, neither ought it to be at all wonder'd at, if seeing he had dishonour'd so many honest Families, God permitted the same to fall upon his.

He had a Daughter tolerably handsome, but very ambitious, who was not contented with the Cloaths her Father would bring her, because being

covetous, ſhe often wanted what was neceſſary: She therefore contrived to have them another way than from him. For a certain Abbot happened to fall in Love with her, who was an *Italian* Gentleman deſcended from an honourable Family, and was called the Abbot *Vannini*; which Man became notorious for his Extravagancies, as you will find in the progreſs of this Hiſtory. For this our Prelate always loving a ſweet Bit, and never valuing the Expence of it, his Propoſitions were quickly liſt'ned to; and the Concluſion was made betwixt them without any great Preliminaries: For in *Italy* they come preſently to the Point in theſe kind of Affairs, becauſe Opportunities are more ſcarce there than elſewhere; and when ſuch are preſented, Lovers never fail to take their Advantage.

One Night, though very late, as *Bandiere* according to his Cuſtom came from the Queen, he found a Guard at the Door of his Lodging, who would not ſuffer him to enter; and becauſe *Bandiere* uſed to ſay he could lye when he would at the Queen's, where he had a Bed, our Lovers did not expect he would have come to interrupt their Pleaſures,

Pleaſures, and trouble the Merriment. *Bandiere* being thus kept out of his Houſe, laid his hand upon his Piſtol; but whether it were that it did not take Fire, or that he knew not how to make uſe of it, two Men took hold of his Cloaths and drubb'd him ſoundly, but did not kill him. Theſe troubleſome Companions went along with him as far as his good Friend the Marquis *Del Monte*'s Houſe, where he got in, and ſhelter'd himſelf, paſſing the reſt of the Night very ill. And, after all this, his Daughter's Lover marched off at his own leiſure; but the next Day this Story was ſpread through the whole City. *Bandiere* complain'd of it to the Queen, who as ſhe ſometimes paid him home, told him, that he ought not to think it ſtrange, if the ſame meaſure were meted to him that he himſelf meaſured to others. Cardinal *Azzolini* laughed with all his Heart; and the Marquis *Del Monte* having had his part of the Concern, would fain have perſwaded the Queen to put this young Woman into a Monaſtery for ſome time. But ſhe was only a Young Thing, who had married her ſelf without her Parent's Conſent to one

who was better Acquainted with the Daughter, than the Father: But the poor Wretch died in Childbed of her first Child.

Now the Queen did not only search after the Art of making Gold, but pretended to find out the Universal Medicine, and the Secret of living an hundred Years. As she was very easie of belief, having read a Secret of this kind in the *Mercury Gallant*, so she would try it upon her own Person, without any Precaution; but she quickly began to swell so much that she was ready to burst, and had been in a very ill condition, if she had not received a speedy Remedy. This Experiment not succeeding, she suffer'd her self to be deluded afterwards by an *English* Chymist, who having entertain'd her one Day with a great many things which were very curious, assur'd that he had had a Secret to prolong Life, and that by it Persons being of about fifty or sixty Years of Age, might maintain themselves in the same Vigour to Sixscore Years, and much further. He said he had made the Application upon himself, and being 70 Years old as he pretended, he had yet a good Appetite, slept well, and had all the

Functions

Functions of Life as a Man of fifty Years old. And for a proof of his Knowledge, he ſhewed her Certificates from a great number of Perſons, whom he had not only cur'd of ſtrange Diſtempers, but had made Young again, and given them Vigour. He ſaid he had tryed the Experiment upon the Marquis *Del Monte*, who ſhewd thereupon an extream Vigour in the Combat of Love, and aſſured the Queen, that the Marquis (tho' he were 60 Years old) had never more Vigour than at that time. He needed ſay no more to ſet the Queen on fire. This *Engliſh* Mountebank, knew ſo well how to perſwade her, that ſhe would have this Secret at any rate. He profeſs'd that he would never teach it to any Perſon, but that he would furniſh her with a Doſe which ſhould be ſufficient to keep by her without revealing his Secret, becauſe Her Majeſty being the moſt Generous Queen in the World, would make no difficulty of teaching it to a great many People, and for his part this Arcanum was all the Treaſure he had. At laſt the Queen being eager, promis'd him ten thouſand Crowns for his Secret, upon Condition he ſhould go immediately out of *Italy*, and come thither

ther no more. But he every Day raiſed his Price higher and higher, and the Marquis *Del Monte* who intended to have his Share herein, perſwaded the Queen by any means not to let this Secret eſcape, and the thing was carry'd ſo far, that he was offer'd thirty thouſand Crowns. But Cardinal *Azzolini* having underſtood it, was all over in a cold Sweat at ſo great a Sum; for the Queen was ready to have given him a Bill upon the Bank of *Santo Spirito*, which was engaged for Payment, or would have put her Jewels into his Hands for Security.

One Day being among her Maids, as they were combing her Head, ſhe ſaid, *I will put my ſelf into the Mode now more than ever; my Secret will be vehemently deſired by ſome People, and rejoyce others. I hope in God to live yet longer than I have liv'd, to a large extent of Years, and to ſee a dozen Popes more. Then I ſhall tell them a great many things which I can aſſure them I have ſeen, tho'* Cardinal Ricci *ſaid of me,* "The Queen of *Sweden* eats a great "deal, and digeſts but little, becauſe "ſhe does not chew it well; and this "will haſten her Death. And now the "old Fool is dead himſelf, but as for

"me

" me I ſhall live a long time; and other ſuch like things. But all theſe fine Hopes preſently vaniſh'd; for Cardinal *Azzolini*, with an hundred Piſtols, ſent this *Engliſh* Man out of *Rome*, tho' himſelf afterward ſhewed a Weakneſs of the like kind, in his laſt Sickneſs, where he would have given two thouſand Crowns for a Pill compoſed by the Marquis *Santanell*.

The Marquis *Del Monte* loſt a Gudgeon, by the *Engliſh* flight, but he had many other Supplies, being accuſtom'd to live upon Rapine. The Charge of Captain of the Queens Quarter or Barrier, furniſh'd him continually with new Means of getting Money; But Play ſwallow'd up all. When he was in Debt he would appear before the Queen with a Melancholy Air, and ſhe demanding the reaſon of his Sadneſs, he would tell her with admirable Addreſs, That he had loſt at Play. She ſaw him thus oftner than he really had Play'd, and would give him Bills from thirty to forty Piſtols, more or leſs, according as it happened. For the Queen reſerv'd a certain Sum per Month, for ſmall Uſes, and ſometimes ſhe had certain Funds out of *Sweden*, which ſhe kept in private to

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be liberal with, upon occaſion. But ſhe did not ſo often diſtribute them according to Peoples Merits, and in proportion to the Services done her, but almoſt always by Fancy, and without diſtinction. The Marquis had caus'd his Wife and Children to come to *Rome*, with the Marquis *Mario* his Brother, and he would have found a great difficulty to maintain ſo numerous a Family, without his Induſtry, becauſe he had but very ſmall Funds from his own Patrimony, and no more than thirty Crowns a Month from the Queen. 'Tis true that the other Advantages which he had from this Princeſs came to as much more, for ſhe paid the Hire of his Lodgings, kept him a Coach, gave him alſo many Priviledges and Exemptions of Cuſtoms of Goods, and many other things.

This Marquis who had a mind to furniſh his Houſe at the Expence of ſuch as retir'd into the Queens Quarter, had a thouſand Intrigues with the Jews; and it would be tedious to reckon up all the Stories of the Cheats he put upon them.

I will only mention one, whereby he got a great many good Pictures, without diſburſting one Farthing. He had a Tay-

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lor, whom they call'd the *Liegeois*, as being of the Country of *Liege*, who had not much Wit, though he was a Man of Substance. He had an Acquaintance with some *Flemish* Painters, who were able Men at their Art., from whom he had very valuable Pictures, because they were Originals, for Cloaths, the Hire of his House, and a little ready Money. He had bought a little House at *Langara*, within the Queen's Jurisdiction, or Franchises, and it had a little Garden well Cultivated, full of Flowers and Fruits; and among other things, with fine Oranges and Limons in Vessels of Earth, which were the Delight of this poor Man. The Marquis went to him, and demanded this House in the Queen's Name, to lodge a *Swedish* Gentleman in, who was one of the Queen's Receivers, and was then at *Rome*. The *Liegeois* at first refused this Demand; but being threatned with ill Treatment, he presented a Petition to the Queen, who had no regard at all to it, but on the contrary, forc'd him to give the *Swede* the best Room in his House. The Marquis went to see him often, and the Flowers and Fruits in his Garden.

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This pierced the poor Proprietor to the Quick; and to redeem himſelf out of this Vexation, he threw himſelf at the Marquiſs's Feet, who promiſed him to Diſlodge the *Swede*, provided he would lend him four of his beſt Pictures to take Copies of. You ſhall not only Copy them, ſaid the Taylor, but I will give you the Originals with all my heart, provided you will grant me your Protection The Marquiſs Embracing him, promiſed him he would, and Diſlodged the *Swede*, who was however juſt upon his departure out of the Country. By this Trick, the Marquiſs got four Original Pictures, which might be worth about 12 or 14 Piſtols a piece; and ſometime after, he deſir'd four more, only to Copy, which he promis'd to reſtore, without performance, deferring it ſo long till the *Liegeois* Died; and his Heirs could never regain them: For not long after, the Marquiſs *Del Monte* made a Voyage into *Sueden*, where he ſtaid a long time, and at his retnrn alledg'd Preſcription, and would never hear them talk'd of any more.

At the ſame time he was preparing his Chambers for the Taylor's Pictures, he contriv'd to fill his Cellar with good

Wine

Wine for nothing. There was a cheating Rogue named *Gaſpar*, a Joyner by Trade, who wanted the Marquiſs's Protection, which he bought to the Price of 80 Barrels of excellent Wine, and it coſt nothing either to the one or the other. He had a Friend, one of the Queen's *Suiſſes*, call'd *Melchior*, who was a Serjeant, and kept a Cabaret or place to ſell Wine at *Langara*, where he had a good Trade by the Refugees and other wicked People, who retir'd into the Queen's Franchiſes, becauſe they would not pay their Debts, or to avoid Puniſhment for their Crimes. *Melchior*, who was as great a Cheat as *Gaſpar*, went with his Comerade, into the Villages about *Rome*, where the beſt Wines in the Country grow, as at *Freſcati*, *Albano*, *Genſano*, *Tivoli*, and others, where they bought 300 Barrels of Wine, at half a Piſtol a Piece to be paid in *Rome*, paying only a little Money in Earneſt, to cover the Cheat. The Marquiſs, as we have ſaid before, had 80 Barrels of the beſt Wine *Albano* afforded; *Gaſpar* had twenty Barrels, and *Melchior* the reſt to ſell by Retail. And the Merchants doubted nothing for three or four Months, but afterward came to *Rome*

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to demand Payment. At first they gave them good words, to draw the thing at length, and hop'd to tire them by sending them so often back without doing any thing. They Addressed themselves to Cardinal *Azzolini*, who shrugg'd up his Shoulders, and advis'd them to present a Petition to the Queen, which they did, but they lost a great deal of time, because the Queen was very often not to be seen. The Cardinal, who was willing to have Justice done, favour'd them all he could with the Queen. She sent the Petition to the Marquis *Del Monte*, and order'd him, as Captain of the Queen's Quarter, to see Satisfaction given to these poor Merchants. This was to make him Judge of his own Cause; and he ordered it accordingly, for he gave them nothing but good Words, and appointed several days of Payment, one after another: At last for Form sake, he called the Debtors before him, in the presence of the Creditors; sometimes they denied the Debt, and sometimes quarrel'd with the Price and the Quality of the Wine, pretending they had been Cheated. At last, one of the boldest of the Merchants presented a Petition to the Pope; and the Marquis

quiſs underſtanding it, perſwaded the Queen not to hear them, becauſe they had Affronted him, in recurring to another Juſtice beſides his own. Upon a ſecond Petition to the *Pope*, his Holineſs ordered the Governor of *Rome* to ſee good Juſtice done; and thereupon the Joyner was taken out of the Queen's Quarter, and put into Priſon, but being inſolvent, he came out at three Months end, by liſting himſelf for a Soldier. The Goods of the *Swiſſe* were Seiz'd in *Execution*, and ſold by the Queeen's Permiſſion; and he was oblig'd to ſerve a Year without Wages. So that with this and ſome Money the Queen gave in Charity, the Merchants were paid ſome well, ſome ill, and ſome ſcarce any at all.

The Marquiſs being got out of this untoward Buſineſs, thought of nothing elſe but Diverting himſelf; and the Franchiſes of the Queen's Quarter furniſh'd him every day with an opportunity of ſatisfying his irregular Paſſion for Women. For thoſe whom Debauchery had cauſed to retire thither, were oblig'd to abandon themſelves to him, that they might have permiſſion to proſtitute themſelves to others.

thers. When they were afraid of Danger, or too great in Number, he was contented with a Preſent, to let them ſtay in the Queen's Quarter. And you might frequently ſee Maids, who run away thither from their Father's Houſes; and Wives that forſook their Husbands Beds, to live publickly in a Crime, without fear of being Puniſh'd, ſo that our *Barbon* got Money by them, and might produce them to his Friends. He ordinarily kept Company with Prince *Columberi*, who was the Town-Bull of *Rome*, and let him know the fine things, and pleaſant Recreations of the Queen's Quarter. This great Prince, who was very Accompliſh'd, had no other fault, but that he was addicted to Women: But having too great a Soul to approve the Cheats of the Marquiſs, he was yet very glad to ſee by his means, freſh Women as often as he pleas'd, to amuſe himſelf withal. For indeed, the Great Lords do not know for the moſt part how to ſpend their time, when they are neither exerciſed in War or Hunting. Though he was far from being Liberal, he never Cheated any body, no not ſo much as one ſingle Perſon; and if he did not pay them in Money, furniſh'd them

them with Wine, Wheat and Coals. For having a great deal of Land in and about *Rome*, he did not always receive his Rents in ready Cash, and therefore it was more commodious for him to pay rather in Provisions than Money; reserving the latter, only for new Acquaintance. To these he would give only a *Testoon* of about the value of Eighteen pence, never more nor less; for he was not of their Humour, who ruine themselves by Women, as the *Spaniards* often do. And indeed, the great number of those he dealt withal, made him put a low Price upon them, and he found his Account much better among the Lesser, than with the Great Ladies, who are not to be enjoy'd without great Expences; for he was not so blind to sacrifice his Interests to his Pleasures. As the Princess his Wife had forsaken him, he was not of a Complexion to forsake the Sex, but therefore gave himself up to Pleasure, and would taste of all, without setting any Bounds to himself. No Woman 'scap'd him that had any Dealings of that kind, and he was welcome every where by reason of his Birth and the Charms of his Person; For he was well made, and very well provided with

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the Talents of Nature, and principally those appropriated to the Pleasures of *Venus*.

Although this Prince would see many Women, yet he had but one which he constantly kept; to this he paid his Respects, and no body durst touch her for fear of being Murther'd upon the least Signal, by some of his Bravo's, of which he had always twenty at command. She I am going to speak of, was Daughter to a certain Widow named *Manchol*. Prince *Columbieri* did as many of the long Robe do at *Rome*, who not being able to Contain, are obliged to make a fair Appearance, and chuse out a poor Maid, such as they like best, both for Beauty and other Respects, and keep her at a distance from them, paying her Lodging with a Salary of nine or ten Crowns a Month, where they recreate and themselves as often as they please, without permitting her to see any other Company. And this management having lasted some Years, or till such such time as the Vestal begins to grow Old, they put her off to some *Ultra montain*, Artificer, or Tradesman newly come thither, who Marries her for a Virgin. After this, some of them

them live Vertuously. But they that cannot forsake their vicious Courses, live with their Husbands till such time as their Debaucheries are discover'd, and then they withdraw into the Franchises of the Queen, or some Ambassador, and there live freely, according to their former manner of life, till such time as Sickness or old Age, disorders or quite break it off. There happen'd one time a villanous case of this Nature, which cries out for Vengeance. One of these sorts of Maids having Married an Artizan who was a Stranger, and excellenr in his Art; She left him at three Weeks end, because he would force her to live in Order; and therefore she contrived with her Mother, to destroy her Husband; and the Measures being taken accordingly, one day as the Mother did entertain her Son-in-law in a Chamber with a long Discourse, her Daughter brought in a Man at another door, where on a sudden they were Surpriz'd by the *Sbirries*, who were hir'd and let in on purpose, to carry them all to Prison. And there was immediately a Criminal Process form'd against the Husband, at the request of the *Fiscal*, who was also gain'd, and the poor Man

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was condemn'd to the Gallies for five Years, for a contented Cuckold, or such a one as will suffer his Wife to be Kiss'd in his Presence for Money, and died in Misery at *Civita Vecchia*, while his Wife in the mean time prostituted her self to all the People in *Rome*.

But to return to *Manchol*, Prince *Columbieri* had Lodg'd her in a Private House, but pleasant, with a fine Garden, towards St. *Mary Majeure*, where he furnish'd her with all things necessary. She had two Daughters, one of which was called *Menica*, and the other *Antonia*. The first was that which the Prince Loved: She was one of the finest Women in *Rome*, of a curious Stature, the turn of her Visage well made, fine Eyes, and the finest Teeth in the World, an admirable Neck, and Sung well: In short, there was no Defect in her Person, except that her left Arm was a little shorter than the right, with a little Hand, which was something dry. Her Sister was a great fat Woman, and of a Swarthy Complexion. The Prince Charm'd with his *Menica*, had a fancy to shew her to the Marquis *Del Monte*, to challenge him to shew any Woman in the Queen's Quarter that was comparable to her.

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All these three made a bargain to bring these Girls to walk to the Banqueting House of *Farneſe*, at the Gate of St. *Pancraſs*. The Marquiſs also promiſed to bring his Damoſel, who was then a ſmall Remblant, or the Leavings of the Queen's Taylor; yet ſhe was very Handſome and full of Play, and was call'd *Roſina*. They came pretty early to the Banqueting-Houſe, in Coaches with the Windows ſhut, and in company of their Mothers. Our three *Paladines* came later, every one in his Coach. The Marquiſs *Del Monte*, brought a courſe Dinner, which he had made ready at the Cabarets of the Gate *Settignana*. But our Nymphs gave notice to their old Sweethearts, that if they had ſufficient Dexterity, to come into the Banqueting-Houſe without being ſeen, they would ſteal from them a Moment to entertain them in Private. The World is always full of Waggery, for though theſe Gentlemen Treated their Damoſels well, they were mad that they had been Faithful ſo long, and almoſt died with longing to Betray them, ſo true it is, that there is little ſtreſs to be laid upon theſe kind of Animals. The three Favourites, were the Queens Taylor, a

old experienc'd Gameſters, got Ladders and look'd over the Wall, to ſee if they could perceive the Tracts of any Body. The Marquiſs *Del Monte*, who knew the place beſt, diſcover'd the Matter by ſome prints of their Feet, but had the Diſcretion to ſay nothing, and to tell them on the contrary, that it was a falſe Alarm. They Diverted themſelves to the full till the Evening, or rather the Night came; and they had no ſooner retir'd, but the Marquiſs told all to the Queen, who was ready to die with Laughing, and ſaid there was no truſting to Beaſts without Tails: Thoſe were her very words.

Love and Debauchery though they were a great part, were not the only buſineſs of the Marquiſs *Del Monte*, for at the ſame time he had a regard to his Intereſts; for his Affairs being but in an untoward poſture, he took all occaſions to better them, and therefore demanded his Tribute from thoſe who ſhelter'd themſelves in the Queen's Quarter. He help'd the Merchants as much as he could to Cheat the Cuſtom-Houſe of all ſorts of Merchandize. A Caſhier of the Mount of *Piety*, run away into the Queen's Quarter with a Strumpet call'd *Iſabella*,

Iſabella, and three Thouſand Crowns he had Robb'd the Bank of, was ſent away ſome days after in the Queen's Coach, as far as the Confines of the Realm of *Naples*, by the means of a Preſent of two Hundred Piſtols he made the Marquiſs. Some time after, one of the Caſhiers of the Bank *de Spirito Santa*, named *Paterno*, fled into the Queen's Quarter with ten Thouſand Crowns in Gold and Silver, which he had Cheated the Bank of; the Marquiſs conducted him in the Queen's Coach, as far as *Mantua*, for the Sum of 2000 Crowns. This Wretch went to *Hamburgh* to *Teixere*, upon the Marquiſs's Recommendation, where he died in the Flower of his Age, having ſhortned his Life by Debaucheries and vicious Courſes.

When the Debauch'd Monks had a mind to divert themſelves with Publick Women, they commonly came to the Caberets of Port *Settignana*, where they were cover'd from Juſtice and the Cenſure of their Superiors. The Marquiſs always found a Seat at their Table, and perhaps ſomething elſe at the end of the Feaſt. And indeed he let no opportunity ſlip, to make his Advantages upon the Chapter of Intereſt and Love.

Valet de Chambre of her Majesty, and another Taylor of the Place, *d'Espagne*, call'd *Picard*, a very Debauch'd Fellow, no Novices in the Court of *Venus*, and who fail'd not to be there according to the Assignation. In the enclosure of the Vineyard of *Furnese*, there is a great and a little Banqueting-House; in the great one is a large Hall, marvelously built, from whence you may see the Fields as far as the Sea. 'Twas there the Feast was made, and the two Mothers of these two Girls Dined with the House-keeper, and our People diverted themselves together, each one embracing his *Cloris*. The cunning Jades counterfeited with admirable Dissimulation, and one would have sworn it was the first time they had been with Men. For the *Romans* do know so well how to make themselves Grave, that the most Debauch'd would pass for *Lucretia*'s by their mein and outward appearance, unless they chance to mistake when they are heated with Wine and good Chear. When the Chevalier had Dined, he took a *Guitar* and Play'd, to which they Danc'd and Caper'd; and when they had heated themselves sufficiently, our Seniors went to Sleep, as

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it is the Cuſtom of *Italy* after Dinner, and gave liberty to the Girls to walk in the Porch. But they impatient to ſee their ancient Gallants again, Detatch'd themſelves out one after another, and went to find them in the little Banqueting-Houſe, carrying ſome remainders of the Dinner, and ſome Bottles of Wine half empty along with them. Theſe new Comers had ſome Advantage of the Regale, while their good Mothers ſtood Centry. This was not the firſt time they had been at the ſame Rendezvouſe; for they were ſo well acquainted, that they knew every Creek and Corner, and nick'd their Opportunity, becauſe the Moments are there Precious.

But in the midſt of all the Joy, our Seniors awak'd and demanded their Nymphs. Their Mothers called them, but that did not avail, for they were ſo impatient, that they could not forbear to Search after them. But in the interim, the *Valet de Chambre* and the two Taylors ſlip'd away cunningly, and leap'd over the Wall into the Queen's Garden below, going as ſoftly as they could through the Thickets and Bruſhes. The Girls were found Blood-red and all in an Heat; and our Seniors, who were

old experienc'd Gameſters, got Ladders and look'd over the Wall, to ſee if they could perceive the Tracts of any Body. The Marquiſs *Del Monte*, who knew the place beſt, diſcover'd the Matter by ſome prints of their Feet, but had the Diſcretion to ſay nothing, and to tell them on the contrary, that it was a falſe Alarm. They Diverted themſelves to the full till the Evening, or rather the Night came; and they had no ſooner retir'd, but the Marquiſs told all to the Queen, who was ready to die with Laughing, and ſaid there was no truſting to Beaſts without Tails: Thoſe were her very words.

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But however, he was ſometimes miſtaken, as may be ſeen in the following Inſtance.

A *Piemontois* Lady, the Wife of a Marquiſs in that Country, I know not for what reaſon, went away from her Husband, and came to the Queen, diſguis'd under a falſe Name. Her Husband being angry that his Wife had left him, or rather her Parents complain'd to the Duke of the ill Uſage of her Husband, and moved his Royal Highneſs to ſend after her to Stop her. This was done, but it prov'd too late; for having always the Wind of the Purſuers, ſhe came to *Rome* without any Obſtacle, and went directly into the Queen's Quarter. The Marquiſs *Del Monte* having Notice of it, did not fail to Introduce himſelf, and went readily to wait upon her. She was one of the fineſt of a brown Complexion, the Court of *Savoy* had. This Lady ſeeing her ſelf under the neceſſity of having a Protector, recommended her ſelf to the Marquiſs *Del Monte*, who brought her to the Queen. Her Majeſty ſeeing a Woman ſo fine, well Shap'd, and of conſiderable Quality, had all the conſideration and regard for her poſſible. But

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in the interim, the Duke of *Savoy* had wrote to the *Pope*, and Cardinal *Francis Barberini*, Dean of the Sacred College. The *Pope* at that time would take no cognizance of it himself, but spoke to Cardinal *Barberini* to Addreſs himself to the Queen about it; which was difficult, becauſe this Princeſs was angry that the Duke of *Savoy* had not ſent to her. The *Savoyard* Lady ſeeing ſo many Powerful People at work to force her back to her Husband, caſt her ſelf at the Queen's Feet, humbly begging her to take Compaſſion of her, becauſe her Husband was the Cruelleſt of Men; and if ſhe ſhould be conſtrained to return to him again, he would certainly make an end of her Life. Cardinal *Barberini* came to the Queen under pretence of a Viſit, and falling into Talk about the *Piemontois* Lady, he exhorted the Queen to reſtore her to her Parents. The Queen who knew that Cardinal *Barberini* had receiv'd a Letter from the Duke of *Savoy*, deſir'd to know, her ſelf ſeeming ignorant of the Matter, why he concern'd himſelf about this Lady, ſeeing no body had as yet addreſſed themſelves to her upon that account. The Cardinal anſwer'd, that the Duke of *Savoy*

doing him the Honour to Write about certain Affairs, had desir'd him in the same Letter, that if he knew the Lady was at *Rome*, as he was assur'd she was, he would oblige her to retrrn to her Husband, and had given his word upon the Faith of a Prince, that her Husband should treat her with all sort of good Usage, and would take the trouble upon himself to compose the Difference betwixt them. The Queen Answer'd him, that when she had the same Assurances, she would restore her, and that in the mean time, she has promis'd her Protection, and that she would deliver her to no Body, but such Hands wherein the Lady might trust her. self with all manner of Security. Hereupon the Cardinal replied, that he thought her Majesty would have been satisfied upon his single word; that delay in a thing of this Nature, would but exasperate her Husband; that he would intreat the Queen to consider that the Lady's being in a particular House, look'd a little strange; and if her Majesty would acquiesce either in his Opinion, or most humble Request, he would take care to put her into a Convent. Hereupon the Queen began to be hot, and demanded whether he

he would put her into the *Sculetta*, or St. *Jaques*, in the company of Whores; for 'tis there Married Women are ſhut up who are Surpriz'd in thoſe kinds of Gallantries. *Barberini* was hot alſo in his Turn, for being every whit as Paſſionate as the Queen, he could not forbear telling her, that he knew he had given her Majeſty good Counſel, and that perhaps they would make but a bad bargain of the Matter. Upon this, the Queen was downright angry, and after many words and a great deal of courſe Language between them, call'd *Barberini Vecchio Matto*, Old Fool, and conducted him quite out of hearing with thoſe words. *Barberini* made no other Anſwer, but *Vecchioſi, ma matto no.* I am Old, 'tis true, but I am no Fool for all that. But afterwards *Azzolini* interpos'd himſelf, the *Pope* made a Noiſe, the Lady was Reſtor'd, and at laſt of all, the Marquiſs *Del Monte* got nothing for his Pains.

The Marquiſs was not the only Officer that diverted himſelf, but others manag'd their Intrigues with greater ſecrefy, and did not give ſo great a Scandal: But above all, there was none that manag'd their Affairs with ſo much pri-

vacy as Count *Boccabella* the Queen's Groom. He was a Man of a fine Stature, but groſs, deform'd, ſtuff't up, of a very amorous Complexion, and one that ſlipp'd no occaſion of ſatisfying his Senſuality. Inſtead of dividing his Love, as formerly, among many Perſons of different Humors and Tempers, he reſolv'd, in the Inſtance I am now ſpeaking of, to re-unite his wandring Affections, and fix them all upon a ſingle Object; but inſtead of a Maid, who had been at perfect Liberty to diſpoſe of her ſelf, he took away a Marry'd Wife, and carry'd her off in this manner:

The Climate of *Italy*, and particularly *Rome*, is ſo hot, that 'tis no wonder if all the People there are inclin'd to Love: The Women, above all, when they follow their own Inclination, and ſuffer themſelves to be guided by the Dictates of corrupt Nature, are moſt addicted to it. Their Diet contributes not a little thereunto: For, becauſe they pretend that Water is crude and unwholeſom, the Women and Maids drink as much, nay, more Wine than the Men, without making any Ceremony upon the matter, and eſpecially the

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Vulgar. Beſides this, they eat very often Leeks, Onions, and Garlick, which they ſwallow down like Sweet-meats: Cellery, Fennel, Artichoaks, Muſhroms, Trouſles, Spiceries, and, in a word, all ſorts of Aliments which are hot and provocative, are their Delight; and there are but very few to be found there, that have any extraordinary Appetite for things tending to Mortification. 'Tis true, they are kept up very cloſe; but becauſe things forbidden make us long after them the more, this conſtraint is not at all proper to inſpire Continence; nay, on the contrary, they believe for the moſt part, that they are not accountable for the Honour which Men dare not truſt in their hands. But to ſpeak the truth, there is never ſo much reaſon to keep them up, as when Ambaſſadors enjoy the Franchiſes of Quarters; for when they fly thither, a Perſon cannot re-call his Child, nor an Husband his Wife; nay, further, when a Maid is Marriagable, that is to ſay, above Twenty Years old, and runs away from her Father's Houſe, and goes to the Governour or Regiſter, and declares that ſeeing her Father and Mother have not Marry'd her, ſhe will turn

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Courteſan; he gives her his Protection, and her Parents cannot afterwards keep her up; on the contrary, they often exerciſe this infamous Trade before their Eyes, and they are not able to hinder them.

It hapned ill to a Coach-man of *Burgundy*, Servant to Cardinal *Altieri*, who knew not this Cuſtom, though he had liv'd Twenty four Years in *Rome*. His Daughter being unfortunately run away from him, to ſet up this hopeful Occupation, he found out the Place where ſhe was, and brought her back to his Houſe, where he laſh'd her ſtoutly; but this was look'd upon as a Breach of the Publick Liberty, and Juſtice took her away again; and if he had not had good Friends, he had been publickly chaſtiz'd. This is hard to believe of ſo Holy a City as *Rome*; but it happens ſometimes, and they oblig'd to tolerate ſuch Abuſes, for fear of Spight, and ſome other Reaſons, which the Reader will find in the ſequel of this Hiſtory.

This is certain, that when a Woman addicts her ſelf to Ill, ſhe always finds ſome way or other to ſatisfie her Paſſion: To inſtance in what hapned here ſome Years ago in a Merchant of *Terre-San-*

Sanguina, who had a Wife, believ'd to be the Mirror of Chaſtity; and he watch'd her narrowly; for as the *Italian* Nation is very diſtruſtful, he lock'd her up when he went abroad, and never loſt ſight of her when ſhe went out, going along with her both to the Church and to walk; and yet notwithſtanding all the care he could take, ſhe fell in Love with a Young Man that paſs'd often that way, and made Love to her by Signs, which is a Language well underſtood by the *Italians*. She found a way to let him know, That if he came upon a certain *Saturday* at night, he ſhould find the Gate open at an Hour ſhe told him of; and to deceive her Husband, ſtaid while he was in bed. She was no ſooner come to bed alſo, but ſhe cry'd out, *O God! Husband, I have no Cravat nor Sleeves for you to wear to morrow, and I never thought on't; I muſt riſe again to waſh and iron them quickly.* The Huſband, who believ'd ſhe ſpoke truth, let her do it, and ſlept ſoundly, having been at work all day by himſelf; for the Women there never put their foot into the Shop. In the mean time, the Merchant's Wife comes down, and opens the Door to her Lover, to whom ſhe proſtituted her

her ſelf, and then return'd to her Huſband, as if ſhe had but juſt iron'd the ſmall Linen. Next Morning the Merchant went to trim himſelf at the Barber's, where was uſually good ſtore of Company; his Wife's Lover was there alſo, who not knowing the Merchant, told all the ſtory of his Adventure with the Merchant's Wife, whom he had the Indiſcretion to name: But it coſt him his Life; for he was Poniarded the ſame Night ar he went home. Neither did his Wife ſtay long for the Puniſhment of her Crime; for as Men dare, and attempt all things in *Italy*, her Husband brought her Fruit to eat, which he had poiſon'd beforehand; and ſhe perceiv'd nothing 'till the Poiſon began to work its Effect; and then he reproach'd her with Unfaithfulneſs, Injuſtice, and Baſeneſs, and exhorted her to prepare for Death, acknowledging that he had poiſon'd her. He ſent for the Curate, and in the mean time fled away, taking with him all the Money and Jewels, and what he could conveniently carry beſides, and was never more heard of.

But to return to Count *Boccabella*: He having an Intrigue with a Tradeſman's Wife, was reſolv'd to carry her off;

off; and they agreed together, that it ſhould be upon a *Wedneſday* in *March*, when her Husband went to St. *Peter*'s Church, where there was great Devotion, and a grand concourſe of People, becauſe of the Indulgences given at that time. As ſhe was going under the Columns of the broad Paſſage, call'd St. *Peter*'s *Place*, ſhe ſet up a cry, *O my God! I have loſt my Chaplet of Beads; but it muſt be fallen near this place; for I had it as I paſs'd by the Penitentiary.* In *Italy* the Women always wear a Chaplet in their Hands when they walk in the Streets, and are inceſſantly mumbling over their *Pater-Noſter*'s. Hers was of Coral, or Granat, with great Silver Medals. *Stay here*, ſays the poor Novice of a Husband, *I will return by and by, and perhaps I may find it.* This ſweet Beaſt of a Wife deſir'd him to make haſte; but as ſoon as ever his back was turn'd, ſhe advanc'd three or four ſteps forward, and on the other ſide of the Columns, ſhe found one of the Queen's Coaches, into which ſhe ſtept, and was carry'd to *Longara* to Count *Boccabella*, where ſhe ſtay'd as long as he liv'd, the Count's Domeſticks knowing not one word of it. They only wonder'd that

their

their Maſter eat all alone; that he ſerv'd himſelf, and carefully lock'd the Door after him; that he conſum'd as much Meat as wou'd ſerve two; and, that there was no body entred into his Apartment, which was call'd The Noble, becauſe he kept his Fair One enclos'd there. But when the thing was once become cuſtomary, they took it for Fancy, which caus'd the Admiration in ſome meaſure to ceaſe.

It is ſurprizing that this Woman ſhould live ſo many Years in Adultery, without ſpeaking to any body, and without the leaſt ſence of Religion. Count *Boccabella* died ſuddenly of an Apoplexy, at a time when he thought leaſt of it, and ſome ſay in the very Act, and that he was drawn off by force: A fit End for ſuch a Life! But one would never have imagin'd ſuch a thing of a Man that pretended to be a Devotee, and was a Member of one of the Principal Fraternities of *Rome*, I mean that which wears a particular Mark upon their Garments, and practiſe all manner of Spiritual Exercises. But howſoever the thing were, never was Woman in ſo great a Perplexity; for as ſoon as it was known he was

dead

dead in that manner, there was a great Alarm in the Houſe, and the Woman was in ſuch a confuſion and conſternation ſhe knew not what to do: But when ſhe had recover'd herſelf a little, ſhe ſent to find out the Marquiſs *Del Monte*, and falling upon her knees, with Tears trickling down, beſought him to procure the Queen's Protection for her.

This Princeſs being inform'd of the Accident, hindred Juſtice from taking cogniſance of the matter, and the rather, becauſe he was one of her Domeſticks, and dead in her Quarter. The Corps of the Count was carry'd to the Pariſh-Church of St. *Dorothy*, and there interr'd without any Ceremonies. And as for this miſerable Woman, the Queen put her among the Penitents, where ſhe entred voluntarily, chuſing to be ſhut up there, rather than return to her Huſband, from whom ſhe had no reaſon to expect a kind Reception, after ſuch an injury to his Bed. The Marquiſs, who would do nothing but upon Intereſt, pretended to obtain ſome Favours for his Pains; but ſhe was ſo afflicted, ſhe could not ſo much as hear him, and ſo he paſs'd it by, having otherwiſe wherewithal to recompence himſelf: But he

did

did so many Exploits and injurious things, and the Complaints against him came so fast to the Queen, that she was oblig'd to turn him out, at least in appearance, from being Captain of her Quarter, and to give it to Count *Vasenau*, who was Captain of her *Swiss* Guards.

Count *Vasenau* was Natural Son to *Ladislaus* King of *Poland*, and a *Polish* Damosel: He had a delicate and forcible Wit, a Soul fill'd with Greatness and Integrity; and you might see something Noble in all his Manners, which corresponded to the Nobility of his Birth; but he had nothing handsome in his Face; which however is no mighty Fault in a Man's Phisiognomy. He cloath'd so fine (for he follow'd none but the Modes of *France*, of which he had generally the first notice) that the most Genteel Persons did always imitate him; but commonly adding something of their own, spoil'd what was good in the Inventions of others. He had a *German* Gate, and was a little heavy on Horseback, which made some People difficult to believe that he was so perfect at the Exercises of the Body as he was reported to be. I should easily agree to his Brave-

Bravery; and there are none but those who are either malicious or misinform'd, and have been at *Madrid* or *Holland*, that can dispute it; and there is none of them perhaps will say they had measur'd Swords with him, as the *Gascon* Captain, who was in the *Spanish* Service, did. His great Patience in suffering Affronts, which pass'd for Insensibility and Cowardise, has given occasion to some to form injurious Sentiments concerning him: But however, it is not always insensibility in a Man to suffer; it is Prudence to dissemble that, which the necessity of Affairs will not sometimes permit him to revenge. If Fortune had not been addicted to persecute the Count, without doubt he had took fire as soon as another upon the least Injury done him. If he was at any time complaisant towards a Person, it was rather out of Policy than Baseness of Mind: Nor was it that he lov'd the making of his Fortune more than his Fame; for we do not see that he made any great Business of the Queen's Service, which he might have done perhaps, if he had not had so nice a Conscience. 'Tis well known what Temptations were offer'd him by a Jew of *Hamburgh*, who was

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gain'd by the Marquiſs *Del Monte*, to corrrupt him when he went into *Sweden* to receive the Queen's Revenues, as we ſhall find in the enſuing Hiſtory.

Having loſt the King his Father, when as yet he had done nothing for him, he took a Fancy to travel to the Northern Parts by his own Natural Inclination; but they perſwaded him, and that with Reaſon, that he might find that elſewhere which was not to be found amongſt them. He paſſed firſt into *England*, where he had the Honour to inſinuate himſelf into the Favour of King *Charles* the II. and receiv'd ſeveral Obligations from him; but he was not long there; for he happen'd into ſome Quarrels, which oblig'd him to repaſs ſuddenly into *Holland*, where Fortune did not declare her ſelf in his Favour: So he went into *Spain*, and had good Succeſs at the firſt; for his Air and Manners being very agreeable, gave him an Entrance into all Places; and his way of Addreſs pleas'd many, and particularly *Don John* of *Auſtria* declared himſelf in his Favour. But a certain Gallantry he had with a *Spaniſh* Lady, brought him into freſh Trouble, ſo that he was conſtrain'd

ſtrain'd for his own Safety to depart out of the Eſtates of the Crown of *Spain*. From thence he came into *France*, where he found a good Eſtabliſhment, and a Fortune worthy of himſelf.

Caſimir King of *Poland* after his Abdication, choſe *France* preferrably to all others to paſs the reſt of his days in. This Religious Prince took Count *Vaſenau* near his Perſon, and beſtow'd ſo many Kindneſſes upon him that he was quickly envied. And ſome, even among the Rank of Princes, would have ſupplanted him at the ſame time the King of *Poland* thought to advance him. And for this purpoſe, becauſe the King would go upon ſure grounds, he propos'd to acknowledge him for his Nephew in the Parliament of *Paris*; but however it was not difficult to turn this inconſtant Prince from his Deſign, or at leaſt to cauſe him to deferr the Execution of it.

And it was deferr'd ſo long, that in the *Interim* the King died in the Abbey of St. *Germain de pre*, ſo that theſe good Projects quickly vaniſhed; and inſtead of an Eſtabliſhment, he was forc'd to be content with a ſmall Matter the Prince

of

of *Conde* gave him, of what the King left at his Death. Afterwards he came to *Rome* to Queen *Chriſtina*, who own'd him for one of her Family, and put him into the number of her Domeſticks. Cardinal *Azzolini* and the Marquiſs, who were afraid of theſe Marks of Diſtinction, would willingly have ſeen him far enough of, ſuſpecting that this Kinſman and New-comer would become the chief Favourite, and obtain the higheſt Reward.

However they made fair Weather to him at firſt, though in the mean time they thought of nothing more than how to get rid of him. The Queen made him Captain of her *Swiſs Guards*, and a little while after Captain of her Quarter. But he had this laſt Charge only in appearance; for the Marquis perform'd all the Functions of the Office, ſo that we ought not to impute thoſe diſorders to the Count, which afterwards happen'd in the Queen's Quarter.

He ſpent his firſt two or three Years in great Tranquillity, and without any thing remarkable except ſome ſmall petty Amours: Madam *de Chalais* was the firſt of his Inclinations; but

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seeing she was enclos'd in a Convent of Nuns of St. *Mary*, or of the Visitation at *Langara*, this was only an Amour of an Iron-Gate. I have seen him often in a Moon-shine Night playing upon a Violin, which he had in his Pocket, round about the Walls of the Cloister; and at the sound of certain Airs, Madam de *Chalais* would shew a small Light in her Apartment on the Garden-side, where the Count having found a way to enter, made Love to her afterward by Signs. They had seen one another in *Spain*, when the Prince of *Chalais* retir'd thither by reason of the Troubles he had in *France*; and the Count had a Company of the Regiment of *Chalais* in the *Spanish* Service. The Duke *de Poli* entred into a stricter Tye of Friendship with him than any other, and they made a little League between themselves to uphold one another with the Queen; nevertheless the Count diligently made his Court to Cardinal *Azzolini*, who treated him with a great deal of Civility, Ceremonies of which the *Italians*, and above all the Courtiers are no way sparing.

This Union of the Count with the Duke lasted continually, and so much the

the more agreeably on the Count's part, for that the Duke of *Poli* had a Daughter married to another Duke, who pass'd for one of the finest and most charming Ladies of the Age. She was rarely well shap'd, and of a stature good enough: Her Complection was fine, the Lineaments of her Face were agreeable, and she had the whitest Teeth in the World. Her Mouth was a little large, her Eyes black, lively, and well defended; Her Complection was very beautiful and uniform; Her Hair curl'd and brown, a fine Neck, and indeed her whole Person had an Air of Quality. She sung divinely well, and understood Musick perfectly, and touch'd all sorts of Instruments most excellently. She was then in the Flower of her Youth, about 20 or 22 Years of Age, and as she was often in the Conversation of the Duke her Father, the Count had seen her a long time before he fell in Love with her. She charm'd all the Company that heard her play upon the Base-Viol, as much as any Master of Musick could do; which did facilitate the Conquest of his Heart to so rare and beautiful a Person as the Dutchess was, so that in a little time he became desperately in Love.

Love. His Air, his Manners, and his Eyes did all denote him in a ſtrong Paſſion, but a certain Reſpect, and Timerouſneſs, hinder'd him from declaring himſelf. He therefore endeavoured to do that by another, which he durſt not do by himſelf. And to this purpoſe he caſt his Eyes upon a Taylor which made the Dutcheſſes Cloaths, and he was a Man proper for a Confident. He was Diſcreet and Bold, Prudent and Ingenious, Qualities neceſſary to the Conduct of an Amorous Intrigue. He did it with Succeſs, and as theſe ſort of Tradeſmen find an Entrance every where, he made no great difficulty to acquit himſelf of his Commiſſion, and in the conſequence render'd himſelf neceſſary, both to the one and the other, without being ſuſpected.

He then ſaw the Dutcheſs the ſame Day, and gave her an Account of ſome Love-Matters, without telling her from whence they came, and ſhe heard him ſo favourably, that he did not conceal the Name of the Count *de Vaſenau*: The Lady had already obſerved his Myſterious and Study'd Arts, and did eaſily believe that he was in Love; ſo ſhe voluntarily heard the Declaration made to

her by a Perſon well known, and whom ſhe knew to be in the Count's Intereſts. She return'd as agreeable an Anſwer as the Count could wiſh; but added, That ſhe had Meaſures to guard, for that ſhe had a Severe Father, and a Jealous Husband, who look'd ſtrictly after her. And thus the Introducer concluded the Matter without much difficulty.

All the Secret then was depoſed into theſe Hands, and he made ſo faithful a Report to the Count, that he became more Amorous than before. He ſought for an opportunity to ſpeak to her without his Introducer, but it was very difficult to find one, at leaſt to come Head to Head, or enjoy one of thoſe happy Moments where he might find her alone. All that could be done was within the Circles of the Ladies of *Italy*, that is to ſay, in caſting ſome Glances by Stealth, which did not ſatisfie our Paſſionate Lover, who believ'd, that the Dutcheſs as well as himſelf, did not intend only the Language of the Eyes. But fearing that ſhe did not ſee one half of his Paſſion, he deſired to explain himſelf by *Billets Deux*: However, the Dutcheſs being of Opinion that theſe Letters did often diſcover Intrigues, which otherwiſe

wiſe had been conceal'd, would never receive any, for fear they ſhould fall into a ſtrange Hand. And indeed ſhe had Supervifors in the Country, and Spies ſet over her by others, as well as the Duke of *Aqua Sparta* her Husband. An Ambaſſador who had all the Qualities to pleaſe Ladies, even to Old Age, and had loſt almoſt nothing of the Beauties and agreeableneſs of Youth, ſet all Hands at work to enter into an Intrigue with the Dutcheſs, and he handled the Matter ſo neatly, that, he was with her at the Baptizing of a Child of a *French* Bookſeller, who liv'd in the Place *Navona*. The Honeſt and Engaging Compliments of this Ceremony, were renew'd every time they ſaw one another, with abundance of Sweetneſs and Reciprocal Pleaſure. The Duke *D'Etree*, for 'tis eaſie to ſee that 'tis he I ſpeak of, made a moſt innocent Amuſement to pleaſe the Dutcheſs, but withal ſpar'd no coſt to obtain her favour, and he was ſo liberal upon all Occaſions, that even *Daphne* her ſelf would have turn'd back again, if ſhe had been flying away: It cannot be thought ſtrange therefore, if the Dutcheſs did not hate him; but tho' ſhe was very reſerv'd, ill Tongues

did so envenome all things, that this Princess was banisht *Rome*, and some time after confin'd by her Husband to one of his Estates; and he was assisted in it by Cardinal *Baromeo*, and the Princess *Corboniano* who were Related to the Duke. In the mean time the Count's Affair advanc'd nothing at all, although his Confident was not asleep; for he let slip no Opportunity to make the Dutchess sensible of the Count's Torments. This expert Introducer would speak his things so agreeably, that she would hear him with Pleasure, and as he always mingled some pleasant things in his Discourse, he would make her Laugh; so that the Confident had more Pleasure than the Lover himself. For there was never a Day in the Week wherein he did not go to see the Dutchess under some Pretext or other. The Count would often go and ride about her Palace mounted upon an excellent Horse, Calashes being then not so common, for Cardinal *Chigi* first us'd them in imitation of the *French* Mode. One Night the Count's Confident ventur'd to introduce him into the Dutchess's Palace, wrapp'd in a Cloak, under pretence of an Address to a Damsel who was the Lady's Confident, but they

they were greatly aſtoniſh'd to find the Duke in his Entertaining Chamber. They ſtrove to hide themſelves in a corner to avoid meeting him, but to no purpoſe, for he diſcover'd them as they were retiring, and was very much ſurpriz'd to ſee two Men in his Palace at ſuch an Hour, and in ſuch a place. But the Taylor who had both Courage and Dexterity, came up to him, and told the Duke, That the Dutcheſs had order'd him to come to ſpeak with *Madamoſel Palma*, for ſo was the Maids Name, to take the Body of a Gown to make fit, and that the other Man was his Servant. The good Duke ſearch'd no further into this Affair, but permitted them to enter where *Palma* was. She was Aſtoniſh'd to ſee the Count, but did promiſe and aſſure to ſerve him to the uttermoſt; nevertheleſs, for want of being Liberal, his Affairs advanc'd but ſlowly. Some time after he was in the Converſation of the Duke of *Pol*, and there was Singing, with a Symphony, and Conſort of Muſical Inſtruments, and a Comedy with Marrionnets. That Night the Count thought he ſhould have died of Love, for the Dutcheſs was as Lovely and Fine as an Angel. But while theſe

these things were transacting, the Queen's Affairs being Embroil'd in *Sweden*, her Majesty sent Count *Vesenan* to receive her Rents, and put things into better Order. 'Twas then he must forsake her for a long time, and his Sighs and Tears gave the Dutchess an Account of his Despair; and they promis'd each other to Love eternally: But the Count's Back was no sooner turn'd, but she forgot him. Being arriv'd in *Sweden*, his Confident wrote to him every Post, and sent him News of the Dutchess; but he was not Faithful, because he was employ'd in another Intrigue between the Dutchess and a Roman Prince of great Merit. However he was useful, in giving him notice of all the Traps and Machinations against him, which came to his Knowledge: For the poor Gentleman had a great deal of Persecution from the Marquis's *Del Monte*, who was enrag'd that he was not sent in his Place.

Cardinal *Azzolini* did what he could to calm the Queen's Mind, but the Marquis's Cabal aggravated it, and *Landizi* always entertain'd the Queen with this Discourse, when she was in an ill Humour. The Queen of *Sweden*, the young

young King's Mother, did him all the Service she could with Queen *Christina*; but the famous Jew at *Hamburgh*, call'd *Teixere*, who was in the Interests of the Marquiss *Del Monte*, because he had confirm'd his Commission to receive the Queen's Rents in *Pomerania*, and in the Dutchy of *Bremen*, which he always remitted to the Queen by the way of *Venice*, at great Interest. This Perfidious Man, gain'd by the Marquiss, made all things go Cross, on purpose to ruin and destroy the Count. 'Tis true that he had some complaisance for this *Jew*, but if they had Robb'd the Queen together, his Affairs had gone better; but he had too Generous a Soul, and a Heart too well fix'd; and in all his Voyage and stay at *Stockholme*, he comported himself as a Man of Probity, which in part was the cause of his Ruine; for the Receivers forsook him, because he made too strict an Examination of their Accounts. But that which compleated his Ruine, was a Letter he writ to the Queen, wherein he gave her an Account, that he had found a way to save a great deal of Money in Exchanges, by returning her Subsidies by the way of *France*, and exchanging with the Pensions the

King of *France* gave the *Suedes*; ſo that whereas ſhe paid Nine *per Cent* by way of *Venice*, he reckon'd not above Two or three to make it come by *France*. This vex'd the Queen afreſh, becauſe it ſhould ſeem by this Letter that ſhe had a Commerce with the Miniſter of *France* in *Sueden*. But he knew not ſhe would take it ill. After all, the Count returned to *Rome*, and went to the Queen with Boots and Spurs on, but ſhe gave him a very brisk reception, for ſhe would ſcarce ſuffer him to ſpeak, and when he did, he was not heard. He ran to Cardinal *Azzolini*, to beg of him to interceed with the Queen on his behalf, alledging, that he was oblig'd to Protect him, becauſe of the good intelligence that had always been betwixt them. But his Perſecutor the Marquiſs, repreſented that the Count was more careful to give the Cardinal an account of Affairs, than he was to her Majeſty her ſelf. She who had a Domineering mind, and would play the Sovereign in all things, took Umbrage at the Count's Proceedings, and treated him ill upon all occaſions. Nay, ſhe proceeded to that Exceſs, that having one day ſent for him into her Preſence,

ſence, and charging him with Injuries; She in great rage gave him three or four Blows over the Head with a Cane ſhe had in her Hand. This poor and much afflicted Lord went to bed with a Feaver, and perfectly deſpair'd to ſee himſelf treated in this ſort; but he muſt have Patience, for what could be done with a Fool that had neither Rhime nor Reaſon? Neither is he the only Perſon who has been thus treated, for the World is full of the Extravagancies of this Princeſs. But that which gave him moſt Affliction of all, was the Cheating and Mockery of the Marquiſs *Del Monte*, who came to Comfort him, and that was the cauſe of all the Miſchief that befell him. The poor Dutcheſs of *Aqua Sparta* Wept for Grief, and the Count's Confident was witneſs to her Sorrow: For notwithſtanding the Count had not ſeen the Dutcheſs, ſhe had yet ſome conſideration for him. His ingenious Confident oblig'd her to write a word or two, to teſtifie that ſhe took a ſhare in his Diſgraces; And this ſhe did, upon condition that he would reſtore the Letter, as he punctually did, after he had kiſs'd it very often with incredible Tranſport. It was a matter of great

conſolation to him, that ſo lovely a Perſon was touch'd with his Diſgrace. The Duke of *Poli* ſent to Viſit him often, and they ſaw one another *incognito*; and at laſt Cardinal *Azzolini* reconciled him to the Queen, who made him Satisfaction. After the Count had reſpited a while, he would willingly have renewed with the Dutcheſs; but beſides that, he was engag'd, in ſome meaſure, with the Prince I have ſpoken of already, and would give him no occaſion of Jealouſie: An unforeſeen Accident broke all the meaſures of their ancient Correſpondence. The Queen at the Count's firſt coming to her, had hung two of his Chambers with *Damas*, and at his departure for *Sueden*, had deputed the Duke of *Poli* to ſerve in his Place, till his Return. The Duke appropriated theſe Hangings to himſelf, as coming to him from the Queen. And the Maſter of the *Hotel* had put him into ſome hopes of them, which embroil'd the Matter further. At laſt the Count peremptorily demanded the *Damas* from the Duke, who refus'd to reſtore it, alledging Preſcription and Poſſeſſion. Neither of them durſt complain to the Queen, and the Maſter of the *Hotel* would

would disoblige neither of them. So they took Cardinal *Azzolini* for Arbitrator betwixt them, and he counseiled the Duke to restore them; but he was Obstinate, and would keep them. The Queen came to understand it by means of the Marquis her Spy, who lov'd to fish in troubled Waters. She Laugh'd and diverted her self with their Dispute, without obliging either of them to desist from their Pretentions. At last comes a Jew and ended the Strife, desiring the Duke to restore him the *Damas*, which he prov'd to be his own, or to pay him for the Hire of it. The Duke restor'd him the *Damas* before the Count, and neither of them had it. So the Count lost both his *Damas* and the favour of his Lady. So that we see Interest is sometimes stronger than Love. The Dutchess expected, that at his return from *Sueden* and the *Low-Countries*, the Count would have brought her some piece of *Holland*, or some fine *Flanders-Lace*: But he gave her nothing but Gugaws, small works of Ivory, and some other things made at *Nurembergh*, which though artificially done, were nevertheless but of small Value.

The

The Count having nothing elſe to do, amus'd himſelf afterwards with making Love to *Seignora Octavia*, one of the Queen's Maids, the ſame that fell in Love with *Don Benigno*. She was a Barber's Daughter, of the Village of St. *Agatha* near *Peſaro*, called *Giuſtiniani*; Her true name was *Paſſaglia*, but the Queen pretended a right to ennoble this Family, and gave them the Name of *Giuſtiniani* in her Letters Patents. The Queen took her into her Service when ſhe Sojourn'd in *Romania*, becauſe the Plague was at *Rome*. *Octavia* had a Siſter call'd *Giovannina*, who was alſo in the Queen's Service, as we ſhall find in the Sequel of the Hiſtory. As for *Signora Octavia*, ſhe was a well ſhap'd and beautiful Virgin, but being forward and Ambitious, preſently lent an Ear to the Count's Proteſtations; and having the Queen's Heart, ſpoke a thouſand good things to the Queen about him, and the Queen every whit as vain as the Maid, lik'd the Match very well. So he continued his Intrigue, as well out of Policy, as Inclination, though he often receiv'd ſome Mortifications. For one time among others, the Queen was angry with him, and forbad *Octavia* to call him

Monſieur

Monſieur the *Count*, but only *Conſtantine*, or *Vaſenau*. And he muſt have born this Contempt from a Maid of no Extraction, which he ſhould have Married, if the Queen had not been ſet againſt it by the Policy of Cardinal *Azzolini* and the Marquis *Del Monte*, who thought, and not without reaſon, that as this Maid had a great Influence over the Queen, ſhe would have been able to make him her Heir General in favour of this Marriage; and ſo much the rather by reaſon of the Count's being her Kinſman. Cardinal *Azzolini* had a Will written in *French*, Sign'd under her Majeſty's Hand, and Dated at *Nicoping*, the 7th of *June*, 1667. Wherein he was declar'd her Heir-General: And I have many times ſeen the Original in his Hands, but ſhe had always a power to revoke it when ſhe pleas'd. To ward off this Blow, they endeavour'd to Marry her with the Marquiſs *Caponi*, that made Love to her; who being a poor Lord, and reduc'd to ſerve as a Gentleman to Cardinal *Altieri*, would not let an opportunity ſlip out of his hands, of Marrying one that had a Fortune in ready Money, though ſhe was not equal to him in Quality; for in *Italy* they make no

no such great matter of mingling Blood, as they do in *France* and *Germany*. At last the Business was made up by *Donna Maria Candida*, a Religious of St. *Cecily*, and the Abbot *de Cabannes*, Gentleman to Cardinal *Altieri*. It is Suprizing, that at a time when the Queen her self liv'd upon Alms, or a Pension which the Pope allow'd her, her Rents not coming from *Sueden* because of the War, that Cardinal *Azzolini* should find Ten Thousand Crowns in ready Money, to Marry *Octavia* to the Marquis *Caponi*. This she had, without reckoning what she got from the Queen both before and after this Marriage, which amounted to more than double the Sum. Fortune was very favourable to this Girl; seeing that they, who would otherwise have ruin'd it, contributed so much the more to her Preferment. So poor Count *Vasenau*, on which Side soever he turn'd him, was always Cross'd.

Nor are we yet at the end of his Misfortunes. For Prince *Radzevil*, Ambassador of *Poland*, arriv'd at *Rome* in the Year 1680, and visited the Queen in form: And Madam the Ambassadress went also to see the Queen, who gave her a favourable Reception, not only in quality of Ambas-

Ambaſſadreſs, but as one of the Family of the King of *Poland*. Count *Vaſenau* ſerv'd as Ambaſſador, and ſhe vigorouſly recommended him to the Queen. The Ambaſſador, who was willing to ſerve the Count alſo, open'd a way to appropriate to him certain Penſions in the Realm of *Naples*, which belong'd to the *Jagellons*, who Reigned ſo long in *Poland*, of whoſe Family Count *Vaſenau* was the laſt. The Queen liſtned to this Overture, and writ into *Spain* to the Duke *de Medina Celi*, firſt Miniſter to the Catholick King, who was Sovereign of the Realm of *Naples*. She wrote alſo to the Marquiſs *Don Velos*, Vice-Roy of *Naples*; and every thing prepared to favour the Count, if her Vanity and Inconſtancy, had not ſpoil'd all. Sometimes ſhe would accept this Obligation from the *Spaniards*; and ſometimes ſhe would not have it ſaid ſhe ſhould have begg'd their Favour, being perſwaded they would find ſome ſly trick or other not to keep their Words; as indeed they did, when they had penetrated the Queen's Intentions: And ſo Count *Vaſenau* was fruſtrated of his fine hopes.

Sometime after, it happen'd, that the Queen would raiſe the Marquiſs *Del Monte* to the Charge of Great Maſter

of

of her Horſe, and gave him the Title of *Excellence*, pretending this way to Recompence him for the Services he had done her in *Sueden*, whither he had accompanied her in her laſt Voyage, and whither he went afterwards upon the Queen's Buſineſs; but the Ambaſſadors and Cardinals, except *Azzolini*, refus'd to give it him. The Queen hop'd, that at leaſt the Duke of *Poli* would obey her Will; but though he was but a poor Lord, and drew great Subſidies out of the Queen's Houſe, he choſe rather to quit her Service than ſtoop to ſo mean a thing. But the Marquiſs *Del Monte* did not looſe it, for beſides the Charge of great Maſter, he was made *Major Domo* of the Queen's Houſe, and had the profit of both Charges. As for Count *Vaſenau*, he not only gave him the Title of *Excellence* without Scruple, but would likewiſe have given him that of *Highneſs*, if they would have let him alone. Upon this, the Marquiſs look'd upon him with a better Eye, and proteſted he would ſerve him upon all Occaſions. The Queen alſo made him more than ordinary Careſſes, becauſe of his Obedience, and ordered him a Coach for himſelf all alone, augmenting the

number

number of his Liveries, which were not much different from the Queen's; an Honour the Queen did to no body but himself, as being one of her own Family.

The Count now finding himself a little at Repose, and more Honour'd than before, fell into an amorous Intrigue, being content to sweeten his Misfortunes with Madam *Beauregard*, whom he saw every day. But then he left her in the Lurch, and bestow'd all his Courtship upon a new Mistress which he had, without going out of *Langara*. It was the Dutchess of *Salviati* with whom he was Smitten, and she was of the first Quality, and Allied to the greatest Houses in *Rome*. She was a very Handsome Person; and when you look upon her altogether, she was not more agreeable in Beauty, than in a sprightly and charming Wit; for she had great Accomplishments in Conversation, and you would never be weary with hearing her Discourse, for she reasoned with a great deal of Exactness and Judgment. 'Tis true, she was subject to some little Discontents, which took her now and then, but that did not hinder her in her *Lucid Intervals*, from being brisk and sparkling, and to Charm all those which had

had the happineſs to approach her. This I ſay, becauſe ſhe communicated her ſelf only to Perſons of her own Genius, who knew how to bear her Converſation, but beſides they muſt have the gift of managing her, for ſhe had a Briskneſs that was able to daſh even thoſe of the beſt Aſſurance. She was Siſter to *Don Frederick Scorza*, now Duke of *Caſarini*, by his Wife's Title. Count *Vaſenau* found a way to inſinuate himſelf by honeſt means. For ſhe had a young Son who was a Comely Youth, and of great Hope, but becauſe he had not Travell'd; the Count to make him an Accompliſh'd Prince, inſtructed him in many things, ſhewing him how to Tread well, and take upon him an Air of Greatneſs, conformable to his Birth, and to appear Gallant in the Streets. During the whole Carnaval, he never left the young Lord; and at the ſame time, the Dutcheſs went Maſqued in the Concourſe, in a Magnificent Chair, with thoſe of her Family and Domeſticks. The young Prince and the Count were always at the ſides of them with Masks on, mounted upon excellent Barbs, which they made to wheel and Prance with a Grace. As for the Duke her Husband, he

he is a Solitary Prince, and does not love to appear in Publick. The Night after, having accompanied the Dutcheſs home, the Count and the young Prince were at a Ball together all Night, and paſs'd the time very pleaſantly. Thus the Count comported himſelf in this new Intrigue, which nevertheleſs, he muſt quickly break off: For the old Dutcheſs Dowager, the Duke's Mother, a very Severe Princeſs, of great Vertue, and admirable Conduct, who was afraid any Body ſhould ſpeak to ſpeak to her, oblig'd the Count to retire by degrees, though they ſhewed him great Reſpect. This old Lady was Siſter to Cardinal *Cibo*, and ſo great an Enemy to all ſorts of Intrigues, that when ſhe was young, ſhe broke the Skull of a pretty Girl with a Plate, whom her Husband entertained, and us'd to ſerve at the Table. After which ſhe retir'd into a Convent at *Florence*, and there remain'd till her Husband's Death. Afterwards ſhe return'd to *Rome* to her Sons, where ſhe took care to ſee every body live in order, and according to their ſeveral Duties. The Count had other Amorous Intrigues, beſides thoſe already mention'd, with which I am not willing to tire

tire the Reader; but however we may ſay ſomething perhaps in another place, if an occaſion preſent it ſelf. I ſhall make an end of this Article with the telling you, That after the Death of Pope *Alexander* VIII. he was made one of the Knights of Honour, to Pope *Innocent* XI. where he ſubſiſts by the Pope's Bounty, and a Penſion of 500 Crowns which the Queen left him for his Life, payable by the Heirs of Cardinal *Azzolini*. But the Count is not now the ſame he was heretofore, for having renounc'd the Vanities of the World, he practiſeth great Devotion, and lives a very Exemplary Life, and worthy of a true Chriſtian.

Since we have begun to note the Characters of the Queen's Principal Officers, who have ſo great a part in her Hiſtory, it will not be amiſs to ſee here the Portraicture of the Duke of *Poli*, who made the fineſt Figure with this Princeſs next to Cardinal *Azzolini*; and afterwards we ſhall ſpeak a word or two concerning Count *d'Alibert*, whom ſhe honour'd with her Confidence, tho' ſhe did not much eſteem him at firſt.

The

The Duke of *Poli* was of the Family of *Conti*, which is one of the Nobleſt and moſt Ancient in *Rome*, out of which there has been Eleven Popes. He was a big Man, very groſs, whoſe Age made him grow ſtooping. He was certainly a Lord of Merit, full of Honour, and incorruptible Probity, reſerv'd in Diſcourſe, and Phlegmatick to the uttermoſt point: He would always ſay, that every thing was brought to paſs with Patience. He was as ſevere as *Cato*; and as to his Oeconomy, it would have been call'd ſparing in another, who had not been charg'd with ſo great a number of Children. Pope *Alexander* VII. propos'd him to the Queen to be her *Major-Domo*, or Firſt Gentleman of her Chamber; and ſhe accepted it ſo much the more readily, becauſe ſhe was ambitious of having one of the Firſt Gentlemen of *Rome* in her Service. He behav'd himſelf there with a great deal of Prudence, but he could not forbear to teſtifie his Diſpleaſure when he ſaw things done diſorderly. He was ador'd by all the Queen's Officers, and reſpected as much as her ſelf, becauſe of his Probity. Crown'd Heads did much look upon him, and their Ambaſſadors came to viſit

ſit him, not ſo much for his Birth, as the Eſteem they had for his Perſon. He had the good Fortune to marry his Eldeſt Son, who had been one of the Queens Pages, with the Siſter of the Conſtable *Colonna*, Widow to the Duke *de Bazianello*. This Alliance did much diſpleaſe the Conſtable, who croſs'd it as much as he could, but could not prevent it. The Widow was indow'd in Fifteen Thouſand Crowns in Rent, and the Duke ſuppos'd that both the Goods and Eſtate, would come into his Family with the augmentation of her Dowry, becauſe ſhe had no Children by her firſt Husband. But ſhe was happier in this ſecond Marriage, for ſhe had a fair Lineage from the Duke the *Guadagnoli*.

The Profits the Queen gave to the Duke of *Poli* were great. She paid the Hire of his Palace which was near the Queens, and ſhe kept three Coaches and Liveries for him. This joyn'd to the number of Priviledges, Exemptions, Rights of Entries, and 180 Crowns *per* Month, made him up 4000 Crowns *per Annum*, compriſing therein 600 Crowns for the Dutcheſs of *Poli*, who was firſt Lady of Honour to the Queen, tho' ſhe very

very ſeldom perform'd her Function. For beſides that, Her Majeſty had other Ladies and Damſels, ſhe had ſo little inclination for her Sex, at leaſt in the beginning, that Women were ſeldom ſeen with her; and when ſhe went abroad, ſhe had never any follow'd her. So that the Dutcheſs of *Poli* went only to the Queen at good Feaſts, to receive *Ambaſſadors*, *Princeſſes*, and *Nieces of Popes* that came to viſit Her Majeſty. As for other *Roman* Princeſſes and Dutcheſſes, as the Queen could give them nothing but a Cuſhion, without tranſgreſſing the Law of Ceremonies. So they never came to ſee her, becauſe they pretended to greater Honours. The other Viſits which the Queen receiv'd were from Ambaſſadors and Cardinals, who when they came to *Rome* were obliged firſt to viſit the Pope, next St. *Peter*'s Church; afterwards the Dean and Cardinals, and immediately after the Queen, and if they made any other Viſit before, ſhe would not give them Audience. She came to the Top of the Stairs to receive Ambaſſadors, Cardinals, Princeſſes, Ambaſſadreſſes, and conducted them back again to the ſame place, and ſent her Gentlemen to accom-

company them to their Coaches; but ſhe came to the Bottom of the Stairs to receive the Pope, and conducted him back again alſo. For all the four Popes which Reign'd in her time, came very often to viſit her, and ſhe kept a Chamber for them alone; and ſeated them under a Cloath of State, embroidered with Gold. She viſited alſo the Pope, and never fail'd twice a Year, to wit, at the Nativity of *our Saviour*, and St. *Peter*'s Day.

The Duke of *Poli* had a Brother a Cardinal, who is yet living, and called Cardinal *Conti*; he was Biſhop of *Ancona*, and made his ordinary Reſidence there; and as he was in a Poſſibility of being Pope, the Queen was very glad to be in the Intereſts of that Family, that ſhe might obtain ſome Credit under his Pontificate, in caſe he happen'd to be choſe. This Incomparable Queen, who pretended to ſurpaſs all the World, one Day as the Cardinal took leave of her to enter into the Conclave, after the Death of *Innocent* IX. Embraced him and ſaid, *Monſieur Cardinal, Remember Queen* Chriſtina, *if you become Pope, as I believe you will.* The Cardinal ſmil'd at this Diſcourſe, and ſaid,

ſaid, " He was her very humble Ser-
" vant, without any ſuch hopes; but in
" what Eſtate ſoever God ſhould put
" him, he would always remember the
" Obligations that both himſelf and all
" his Family had to her. This Diſcourſe
being reported to the Dutcheſs of *Aqua Sparta* the Duke of *Poli*'s Daughter,
ſhe ſaid, " That if the Queen had no
" better a Method to obtain Authority,
" then in her Uncle's being choſe Pope,
" ſhe was much deceiv'd; for mine Un-
" cle (ſaid ſhe) will have enough to do,
" to provide for ſo numerous a Family,
" and ſuch a multitude of Kindred. As
to the reſt, tho' the Incomes of the
Duke of *Poli* were well paid, and that
he was in great Neceſſity, yet he quit-
ted the Queens Service ſome time before
her Death upon a point of Honour.
The Queen took a fancy to declare the
Marquis *Del Monte* her Grand Maſter,
and in this Quality would oblige all the
Family to treat him with the Title of
Excellence. Cardinal *Azzolini* who had
reaſons not to diſpleaſe her, obey'd
without Contradiction. But tho' the
Marquiſs was of moſt Noble Blood, as
his Sirname of *Bourbon* made it appear,
he never had this Title in *Rome*, and the

Duke of *Poli*, having conſulted the Duke *de Bracciano*, the Conſtable *Colonna*, and other Princes of *Rome*, to know whether they thought it convenient he ſhould give this Title to the Marquis *Del Monte*, they were all againſt it, and concluded they would keep no further Society with him, if he gave the Title of Excellence to the Marquis. This made the Duke reſolve to deſire his Conge of the Queen, under pretext, That his great Age of 75 Years oblig'd him to retire, and prepare himſelf for Death. And he had another reaſon as ſpecious as the former; for the Queen would have him give place to the Marquis *Del Monte* out of the Palace, when they went with her abroad; tho' ſhe conſented, that the Duke ſhould have the Preference within. This Propoſition being injurious to the Duke, he choſe rather to forſake her Service and retire, as we have ſaid.

Count *Alibert* Son to one of the Intendants of the Houſe of Monſieur *Gaſton* Duke of *Orleance*, Uncle to the *French* King, was Originally from *Orleans*, tho' born at *Paris*. After his Father's Death he was ſought after, for ſome Miſcarriages committed in his Charge,

Charge; but he was so nimble, that he sav'd himself at *Rome* with above 50000 Livres in ready Money. At first he had a magnificent Equipage, for he prepar'd himself a Coach, four Lacquies, and a *Valet de Chambre*; went with a fine Air, and had the Ambition to play with great Lords, and among others with the Princes of *Brunswick* at the Constable *Colonna's*, and other Ladies and Gentlemen, who tho' they often pluck'd away some of his Feathers, yet he had enough to sustain himself still. In the Carneval-time he had one of the proudest Chariots of all, representing Mount *Parnassus*, with *Apollo* and the Nine Muses, which sung in Musick; and this joyn'd with a Consort of Instruments, made a fine Symphony. He pass'd with this Magnificent Train before the Queens Palace, and she came to know him by this means. She permitted him afterwards in her Antichamber, and had some consideration for him, till at last she took him into her Service in Quality of Secretary of Embassies. He was of a middle Stature, and neither well nor ill made, except that he was a little flat Nos'd; a great Talker, and spoke nothing to the purpose; Sparkling enough, but of no So-

lidity; Intriguing and Curious, but a little fearful; full of Activity, and made abundance of Motions, which tended to no purpose. When he would compose a Letter, he sometimes did it well, but it was after he had pillaged *Balzac* and *Voiture*. He affected in his speaking, to declaim and gesticulate like a Comedian; and with all these fine Qualities he entertain'd the Queen every Day after Dinner for two or three hours. She often corrected him, but he suffer'd it very patiently; and above all, when he brought her the News of the Pope's Palace, or the City, which were often invented, because he knew not what to say. I remember one Day the Queen asking his Opinion of some black Laces which she had in her Hand, demanded, Whether they were not Violet color? *Yes, Madam*, (says he) *they are Violet. You are a Sot* (saith the Queen) *they are a Dark Gray. 'Tis true, Madam*, (says the Count:) *You're a Beast* (says the Queen) *they are an obscure Blue. That is the Term* (says he) *that I could not find out.* In fine, he said what she would; but after her Back was turn'd, address'd himself to the *Valet de Chambre*, and said, *What Folly is this? But I must say as she does*

does. Another time, having a mind to flatter the Queen upon the Whiteneſs of her Hands, as ſhe was waſhing with her Arms naked as high as her Elbow; *I muſt own, Madam, that your Skin is perfectly fine, and very white; 'tis admirable, for 'tis all pure Nature, and Art has no ſhare in it. Thou'rt a pleaſant* Jack F— (ſaid ſhe) *to ſpeak to me after this manner? Do'ſt thou think I am thy Wife that paints as low as her Breech?* He bore all theſe Reflections without Regret; and ſhe would often ſay to him, *Qui vive?* And would take Pleaſure in making him deny his Country, and to ſay, *Let* France *be Damn'd*, and even worſe than that, tho' he was always a good *Frenchman* in his Heart. One Day he demeaned himſelf, laying by his Cloak, and took Nails and an Hammer to tack and untack a Picture againſt the Wall; where being mounted upon a Chair which fell backward, he had like to have broke his Neck. All theſe Debaſements of himſelf, made the other Gentlemen of the Queens Chamber, to have but a very low eſteem of him; till ſuch time as being one Day in Her Maj ſties Anti-Chamber, ſpeaking about the News of the War with Count *Caprara*, whoſe Brother was in the Em-

perour's Service, and had been engag'd in a Fight againſt the Viſcount *Turenne*; *Caprara* would needs preſer his Brother before this great Captain, which *Alibert* could not ſuffer with Reaſon. But one word drew in another, till they came to groſs Injuries; and Count *Caprara* without reſpect of the Queens Palace, or her Domeſticks, threatned to Battoon him; and did it to the purpoſe. The noiſe coming to the Queens Ears, inſtead of taking the Part of poor *Alibert*, to enrage him the more, applauded Count *Caprara*, and told him that he ought to be ſerv'd ſo. One Day as Count *Alibert* reaſoned before the Queen in the Preſence of the Meſſieurs *de Vendome*, he ſaid ſo many ſilly things, that theſe Princes as they were going out, ſaid to their Governour; *Is it poſſible that the Queen of* Sueden, *who hath ſo much Wit, ſhould hear with Patience all the Fopperies wh.ch* Alibert *utters every Day, in ſo troubleſome a Manner?* The Queen knew very well they were nothing elſe, but did it only for her Divertiſement. And it is impoſſible for a Man that talks two hours a Day, without a Subject, but he muſt be very impertinent.

After

After he had ſtaid ſome Years in the Queens Service, he had a mind to Marry, and made choice of the Niece of Col. *Ornano*, who had commanded the Militia in *Corſica*, before he was ſuppreſs'd for an Inſult made upon the Family of the D. of *Crequi*. The Baron *Ornano* Father of the Lady, was very hot upon this Match, believing that his Son in Law, that was to be, was very rich, becauſe he had been brought up with Monſieur the Duke of *Orleans*; where one *Ornano* had made his Fortune, and came to be Mareſchal of *France*. But when the Buſineſs was done, Count *Alibert* could not have the Conſiderable Portion promis'd him. And as he had impos'd upon his Wives Parents, by his Pride and Boaſting, was himſelf ſham'd in his imaginary Poſſeſſions, which he thought lay in the Iſle of *Corſica*, which made the Queen ſay, That both the Parties were equally deceiv'd. And to add to the Misfortune of Count *Alibert*, he loſt a great deal at Play. But to make up his Loſſes he had recourſe to Inventions; for under the Pontificate of *Clement* X. he ſet up a Lottery in the Hall of the Colledge *de Sapienza*, where being aſſiſted by ſome Friends, he put in ſome

odd Baubles, Looking Glaſſes, and other little things. He oblig'd many Tradeſmen to whom he ow'd Money, to take Billets of his Lottery in Payment; but almoſt all theſe Unhappy People loſt their Debts, being paid only with a little Paper; for when they came to Draw, they met with nothing but Blanks.

After this he eſſay'd with ſome of the *Altieri*'s to make a Theatre for Comedies at the *Tour de None*, which was formerly the Priſon of *Rome*; and in this he had the Addreſs to get a conſiderable Sum from the Queen to aſſiſt him towards the Expence. The *Altieri*'s contributed too; and the Chevalier *Acciajoli*, who is admirable at fine Decorations, and to rectifie the Order of the Theatre, had the Conduct of the Enterpriſe. It would have ſucceeded very well, if Count *Alibert* could have abſtain'd from Gaming: Not that he took any great Pleaſure in Play, but engag'd in it out of hopes of Winning; wherein he was always deceived, for he had neither good Fortune to befriend him, nor ſufficient Underſtanding and Skill to manage ſuch an Affair; ſo that it is no wonder, if the Chevalier *Acciajoli* often

ten call'd upon him to discharge the Expences of the Habits, as also the Salaries of the Actors, and Musicians. *Acciajoli* complain'd to the Queen, and she was angry with him, but that could not restore what was already lost, and therefore he must have Patience, and stay till the Carneval was past, before he could have the Money which he expected from the Hire of Lodgings and Gardens. At last the Design was carried on, and the Business compleated, but he was never the Richer for it. He also found out an Invention to play with Marionnets at his own House, and made a Traffick of it. And for some time he kept Playing in his House, under the Queens Protection, otherwise he durst not do it, because it was forbidden in *Rome*; where to entertain the Gamesters so much the better, he had from time to time Consorts of Musick, whose Symphony Charm'd the Ear, while their Pockets were emptying.

He set up a Tennis Court, near the place *d' Espaign*, towards the Garden *Di Napoli*; and one time made a Trade of hiring Chambers ready Furnish'd. When he put his Men into Liveries, he had a thousand Inventions

for that with the Jews, and always without ready Money, for ſometimes he would Truck one thing, and ſometimes another. And after all, no *Knight of Induſtry*, knew more Tricks than he; And he that would undertake to write the Particulars of his Life, might make a large Volume of it. During the War in *Pomerania*, the Queen not receiving her former Rents, was forc'd to reform her Houſe, and to throw off the greateſt part of Domeſticks. The Count, with many others, having loſt his Service, was reſolv'd to try his Fortune in another Court, and went to *Turin* to offer his Services to *Madam Royal*, who then govern'd the Eſtate during the Minority of the D. of *Savoy*, who now Reings. He was well look'd upon in the beginning, but when he was once throughly known, they ſet but little by him: And ſo he, who thought to have buſineſs only with the *Allobroges*, found in that little Court People ſo Spiritual and of ſo great Senſe, that it does not give place to the Court of *France* it ſelf, except in Number. At laſt, Count *Alibert* being weary of the Court of *Savoy*, or the Court of *Savoy* of him, return'd to *Rome*, where he found his Counteſs, who did not expect

pect him with any great Impatience: For this Lady had found an opportunity of enjoying her self with a Young Man, who liv'd over her in the same House. As for the Young Man, he was a *Roman* Gentleman, a Beau and Gallant, who seeing the Conveniency the Neighbourhood afforded, had no mind to run further abroad, if you will believe the *Scandalous Chronicle*. And as for the Countess, she was none of those Beauties that would engage a Man in spight of his Teeth; but the facility of seeing her every day, or at least at the Window, engag'd them in a Commerce of Gallantry, as much as the *Italian* Severity would permit. She was of a gross Stature, a fault very common among the *Romans*. The turn of her Visage Irregular, black Eyes, but well defended: And as for her Complexion, she was never satisfied, borrowing from Art what Nature had refus'd. She always daub'd over her Face, as the Queen reproachfully told her Husband, which made it shine like a Looking-glass, or a Bottle of Oil, and caus'd her to loose all her Teeth at Forty years old. Her Mind was as ill compos'd as her Body; and notwithstanding all this, 'tis pretended only

but without Ground, that she did not want Adorers.

After the Peace of *Nimmeghen*, the Queen enjoy'd her Revenues again, put her Court into its former Splendor, and re-establish'd Count *Alibert* in his Charge. This did easily comfort him, for his past Disgraces, and to sweeten his Discontents, he would make Love to Madam *Beauregard*, Daughter of a Confederate of *France*, that made his Fortune with *Mazarine*. But fled into *Italy* after Monsieur *Fouquets* Disgrace, for he was Tax'd by the Chamber of Justice; but had the good luck to carry off the best part of his Effects. He was Originally from *Lucca*, and was called *Diodati*; so being a Refugee at *Rome*, he put himself under the Protection of the Constable *Colonna*, but did not live long. His Widow was introduc'd by little and little to the Queen; and she had an only Daughter, which was called Madamoisel *Diodati*. This young Creature was very Tall, and had the Air and Visage of a *Musketeer*: The lineaments of her Face were irregular, and she had the finest Nose in the World to carry a pair of Spectacles. But in all the rest, she her well and hondsome enough. As for

her

her Wit, ſhe thought ſhe had enough, becauſe ſhe had got all *Clelia* by Heart; *Cyrus* and *Cleopatra* were her Delight, and by the help of Romances, ſhe was become a precious Jewel of the firſt Order. A ſturdy young Fellow, who was the only Son of a Councellor of the Parliament of *Grenoble*, called Monſieur *de Beauregard*, was come to *Rome* unknown to his Father, and became Amorous of ſo Charming a Perſon. He liv'd with Madam the *Conſtable*, and though he was well Shap'd, his Name did not at all ſuit him, for he was a Slouch, Pur-blind, and of mean Regard. This fine couple of Lovers ſerv'd to divert all that came to the Houſe of *Colonna*. Nevertheleſs, Love did ſo well play his own Game, that they muſt needs be Married, without the conſent of the young Man's Father. The Ceremony of this Marriage was perform'd in the Queen's Chappel, and in her Majeſty's Preſence, by a little Prelate of *Lucca*, call'd Monſieur *Bottino*, a Kinſman to the Married Couple. He made a very Spiritual Railery, and much to the purpoſe, upon the Conſent of the Parties, requir'd in the word *Ouy*. Yes. Saying, *Though it was but a word compos'd only*

only of three Letters, it made many People Repent. This was but too true in regard of the Eſpouſed: For the young Man not being able to get any ſuccour or help from his Father, was forc'd to return into *France* to Plead againſt him. He made two or three Journeys to no purpoſe, and died in Miſery at *Marſeilles*, leaving his Wife and three Children behind him. Count *Alibert* endeavour'd to Conſole her; but Compaſſion quickly gave place to Love, and to break it to her, he ſtudied the fineſt Common-place Books of the *Romans*, to make a Speech according to his Fancy. But none of them pleaſing him, he wrote one of the moſt Elegant Letters that was to be found in the Secretary *a-la-mode*, which he got by Heart. Upon this, the Count aſſum'd a fine Air, comb'd his Periwig, and tied his Stockings about his Legs better than ordinary, and his Cloak did not hang on the left ſide, as in time paſt; And for a Livery, he made a red Serge Breeches, with white Sattin Points, ſet out with a fine Galloon. Madam *de Beauregard* who never had ſo Magnificent a Lover before, anſwer'd the Count's Deſires with all the Ardor he could wiſh. All that diſcontented the Count

was,

was, that she came too fast upon him, for he would have conducted his Amours like a *Roman*, that is to say, with one Adventure upon another. But Madam *de Beauregard* had a good Appetitite, and did not care for Procrastination. Count *Alibert* was apparently at a Stand, seeing he must for Decency sake furnish his Countess with things necessary, who then liv'd Soberly, that she might give no ill Impressions concerning her Person, such power had the Queen's Satyr's in rendering her Vertuous. Madam *de Beauregard*, who had her Ends, which she would not speak of, was stark mad that he was so cold. But he found a way to content her; For he knew so well how to take the Queen in a good Humour; that he procur'd her a Pension of Ten Crowns a Month, which the Queen gave her for Life: And after the Queen's Death, she retir'd to *Lucca* to her own Relations. As for Count *Alibert*, the Queen left him nothing, though he deserv'd it better than most of them that had. Monsieur the Duke of *Chaunes*, gave him the Office of Secretary of the Chamber of Ambassies to *France*, but he perform'd no Function of it, after Cardinal *Janson* came

to

to have the charge of the Affairs of *France* in *Rome*, his Eminence uſing his own Prieſts and Domeſticks. Nor did he long enjoy the Pay, becauſe the War hinder'd it; For many more neceſſary to the State than himſelf, found a great deal of trouble in getting their Salaries. However, he went up and down to procure News, as he us'd to do, without bringing any thing to the purpoſe. His great buſineſs was at the Theatre *of Torre de Nona*, where he beſtow'd his Cares, and ſubſiſted moſt of all by the Profit which he drew from thence.

If the Queen made Count *Albert* her Sport, who had Birth, and ſome Merit, ſhe made a Miniſter, of her Favourite, *Valet de Chambre*, called *Claret*, who had neither Birth nor Education. We will relate ſome Circumſtances of his Life, to ſee if he deſerv'd ſo great a diſtinction from ſo clear ſighted a Queen.

Clairet Poiſſonnet, Son to a Man that kept a Cabbaret at *Triere*, a Village between *Pontoiſe* and *Poiſſi*, was firſt Lacquay to Monſieur the Marquiſs *de Valancay*, who brought him to *Rome*, when he was Ambaſſador from *France*. The young Boy could neither Write nor Read, but addicted himſelf to Comfi-

ture,

ture, and perhaps did not ill understand a Kitchen. Having loſt his Maſter, a *Poliſh* Lord brought him into *Poland*, where he got into the Service of King *Caſimir*, before he was Crown'd. But he did not ſtay there long, for having a mind to ſee the Countries, he engag'd himſelf in Service to the *Swediſh* Ambaſſador, who was then at *Warſaw*. He came then with his Maſter into *Sweden*, and being very Active and Handy, had the Honour to enter into the Service of *Chriſtina* Queen of *Sweden*, by means of one *Bourdelot*, a *French* Phyſician, whom the Queen had drawn, by ſeveral Gifts and Advantages to *Stockholm*, to be near her Perſon. The firſt Employ he had in the Queen's Houſe, was to be Comfiter and keep the Linnen. But in a little time he had the good Fortune to make himſelf known upon this occaſion. Her Majeſty had ſent for one *Champagne* a *French* Head-dreſſer, out of *France*, who knew the Art in Perfection, and therefore was much ſought after by the fair Sex; and he came to be known to her upon this occaſion. One day as they were making a *Wirthaff*, which is a ſort of Maſquerade in *Sweden*, where every one, without being entirely Mask'd,

Mask'd, takes what Figure he pleaſeth. *Champagne* who ſaw *Clairet* had very fine Hair, had a mind to put him into Women's Cloaths, and dreſs up his Head *a-la mode*. The Caprice had good Succeſs; For *Clairet* being then very Young, and had a very freſh and lively Colour, paſs'd for a Woman. The Queen, who knew it, took great pleaſure in ſeeing him in this Habit; and he Serv'd her afterwards in many Affairs under this Figure. There was a Court-Lord her Majeſty was diſſatisfied with, and he retir'd into one of the moſt diſtant Provinces of the Realm, to hide and conceal himſelf, and by that means to avoid the effects of her Wrath. She had much ado to diſcover him, becauſe there was a great many Nobles in his Intereſts, and favour'd his retreat. *Clairet* knew him at *Stockholm*, and promis'd the Queen to bring News of him. And for this purpoſe, Habited himſelf in Womens Apparrel, kept his Hair always cloſe Shav'd, and went into the Province whither the Gentleman was retir'd, under pretence of being a Chambermaid to Lady of that Country, who kept Intelligence with, and was the Queen's Friend to aſſiſt *Clairet* to diſcover him. The

poor

poor Gentleman had a *Valet de Chambre*, who was a *Piemontois* and ſpoke *French*: *Clairet* under this habit, got Acquaintance with him, and ſeeing Love mix'd it ſelf in the Converſation, it was eaſie enough for *Clairet*, by means of her Lover, to diſcover where the Gentleman hid himſelf: Who although he kept upon his Guard, and apprehended Ambuſcades and Traps to be laid for him, could not hinder a Diſcovery through ſuch a Diſguiſe. *Clairet* being ſure of his Blow, took Poſt and went to *Stockholm* to advertiſe the Queen, while the pretended Damoſel paſs'd for a Sick Woman upon the *Piemontois*, who Pray'd heartily, and made Vows for her Recovery, with a great deal of Zeal. In the mean time, his Maſter was Seiz'd, and drank exceeding deep of the Cup of the Queen's Reſentments. *Clairet* having ſucceeded ſo well, was made *Valet de Chambre* to her Majeſty: But it is ſurprizing, that this Man, who knew neither how to Write nor Read, and who never ſpoke any Language tolerably, (for he confounded them all together) ſhould have the Fortune to ſucceed ſo well in thoſe things the Queen employ'd him. This Princeſs ſeeing the Nobles Diſcontent-

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ed at her Government, was desirous to establish her self with *France*. And to keep her Affairs secret, could find no better an Expedient, than to make use of *Clairet*. After he had receiv'd his Instructions, and a Letter of Credence put between the Soals of his Boots, he took his Leave of the Queen, upon pretence that the Climate was too cold for him; and the favour was granted him with difficulty to all appearance.

Upon his Arrival at *Paris*, he gave his Letter to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and having given in his Instructions by word of Mouth, and receiv'd his Answer, he return'd into *Swedan*, pretending he had repented himself, and was sorry he had left the Queen's Service. She took him again with great difficulty, upon the pressing and earnest Sollicitations of the Marquis of *Gardia* and the Physician *Bourdelot*, so well was the Play acted. One Night as he went to drink with a Friend of his, he was set upon by four Armed Men, he drew a Pistol, and had the good luck to Wound one, but having made head for some time, he was forc'd to give way to Number, seeing he was already Wounded himself; and they had certainly

tainly done his Buſineſs, if one of the Counts of *Coningſmark*, had not paſs'd by accidentally, with four ſtout Footmen, carrying of Flambeaux, and given him a timely, and ſeaſonable Aſſiſtance. This Rencounter coming to the Queen's Ears. She gave Orders to the Officers of her Regiment of Guards, to ſend two of the beſt and ſtouteſt Soldiers along with *Clairet*, when he had a mind to go abroad in the Night. It was never known from whence this Blow came, but it was ſuppos'd to be from the Relations of the Gentleman that was Arreſted by *Clairet*'s means. One of the chief Senators of *Sueden* having found that *Clairet* lov'd Drink, would have forc'd him by Wine and Careſſes, to diſcover the Queen's Secrets, but to no purpoſe, for he could never Surpriſe him. And it is Aſtoniſhing, that he ſhould be more reſerv'd when he was Drunk, than otherwiſe, for when he was in that condition, he would do nothing but Sing, Laugh, and play Monkey tricks. At firſt he was Secret for his own Intereſt, but became more reſerv'd afterwards, and at laſt got ſuch an habit of it, that all the World admir'd it. Nevertheleſs, he was extreamly Curious, and

preſs'd

preſs'd very much to know the Secrets of others. The Queen, who made uſe of him for a Spy, was very glad to find in him theſe good Qualities, and never ſuffer'd him to be without good ſtore of Money. With theſe helps he would diſcover any thing he had a mind to, inſomuch that the Count *de Chanut*, Ambaſſador of *France* in *Sweden*, forbad his Domeſticks to keep Company or have any Converſe with him, becauſe when he had made them Drunk, he would lead them by the Noſe, and get from them the moſt Secret Words and Actions of their Maſter. He had a prodigious Memory, and never loſt one word that he heard.

After the Queen had Abdicated the Kingdom, he accompanied her in all her Voyages, and was Mareſchal of her Lodgings; and when the Queen Travell'd into *France*, he went before, and had Order with the Abbot *Bourdelot*, to make an hundred Embroider'd Caſſacks, and as many Boots, Holſters, and Arms, for an hundred Horſe Guards, that were to accompany her at her entry into *Paris*.

When the King was with his Army in *Flanders*, and the Court at *La Fere* in *Tartenois*, There came an Order for an hundred

hundred thouſand *Franks*, to help her to ſupport the charge of her Voyage. *Clairet* had a Commiſſion to receive this Money, and he carried it to Monſieur *Baſiniere*, who told him, he had alſo three thouſand *Franks* for himſelf, but deſired him to write a Receit for both the Sums at the bottom of the Ordonnance. He anſwer'd, that being a Gentleman, he would give no Receipt, but would commit it to one of his Lacquays. But he was told that thoſe that receive Money at the Royal Treaſury, even as high as a General himſelf, wrote a Receipt with their own Hands, below their Ordonnance, and that it would not all derogate from his Nobility. He found himſelf then in a great Diſtreſs; For as on the one ſide he was not willing to renounce ſo advantageous a Commiſſion, and on the other, aſham'd to look like an Aſs. He ſaid, to excuſe himſelf, that he had been in a ſmall Skirmiſh, and was Wounded in the right Hand, ſo that he could not uſe it at preſent. So they made up a Receipt for him, that he might ſubſcribe his Name at the bottom; but they were very much ſurpriz'd when they ſaw him make nothing but a Croſs, and that he knew

knew not how to hold his Pen. This made them Laugh, and it was sent to be Sign'd by the Queen's Intendant.

Clairet went afterwards to *Triere* his place of Birth, to see his Parents, and he treated them Magnificently, together with the chief Inhabitants of the Village, for he ordered Tables to be prepar'd for above an hundred Persons. The Meat was the most delicate that could be got; and as *Triere* is a place that abounds in delicious Wine, they drank to Excess. It was pretty to see and hear the good Peopledrink the King and Queen *Christina*'s Health; the Feast was so Splendid, that it made a kind of Wake in the Village, and the *Gazett* made mention of it. What a loss it is, that the Mercury Gallant was not then Invented, that Posterity might learn the Circumstances of it! This Feast encreas'd his Reputation; and Cardinal *Mazarine* one day demanding News from the Queen, she gave *Clairet* a very advantageous Character, exaggerating his Fidelity and Zeal for her Service. His Eminency was astonish'd to hear that a Man without Birth, Education, or Study, should be fit for every thing the Queen would have him. The Queen knew

knew well enough, that she was not deceiv'd in putting Confidence in him, and therefore when she design'd to Murther the Marquiss *Monaldeschi* at *Fountainbleau*; 'twas *Clairet* that was the first Conductor of the whole Intrigue, and none truly knew but himself who they were that Assassinated the poor Gentleman.

If *Clairet* was useful to the Queen in her Voyage to *France*, he was not less in that which she made first to *Rome*, and particularly in riding Post with a Letter to Cardinal *Antonio Barberini*, to know beforehand how she should be receiv'd and treated both at her first Entry, and during her abode there. He never left the Queen in her Voyages, whether into *Italy* or *Germany*. And while this Princess was at *Hamburgh*, upon the Election of *Clement* IX. she sent *Clairet* Post to *Rome* to Congratulate his Exaltation, and to beg permission of him to return to *Rome*. The Pope receiv'd him very well, and by him as the Queen's Envoy, invited her to return, and promis'd to give her Eminent Marks of his Paternal Friendship. And because he knew *Clairet* when he was but a Prelate, he Caress'd him greatly, and gave him

a Medal of Gold, of the value of Ten Piſtols. *Clairet* begg'd of him the grant of ſome Indulgences to the Chappel of his Village; and he gave him an entire Saint's Body over and above; and the Prelate which diſtributed the Pope's Graces, preſented him with a Prayer that would keep him from all Evils, provided he recited it every Morning. He demanded, whether it would not have the ſame effect, if it was ſaid by another, and he was anſwer'd, that it was better to recite it himſelf: Give me then a Schoolmaſter, ſaid he, which ſhall teach me to Read. This quick Anſwer, made the Pope Laugh, and he diſcharg'd him from the reading on't, which would have the ſame effect, carried in his Pocket. But *Clairet* was no great ſayer of his Prayers, a Bottle of good Wine went a great deal nearer his Heart. His buſineſs every Morning was to go into the place *d'Eſpain*, or into the beſt Inns of the City, and when any Stranger of Note arriv'd, he made himſelf acquainted with his Followers or Domeſticks, and from them learn'd the Adventures of their Maſter, the Subject of their Voyage, and gave an account of all to the Queen. He ranſack'd every

every where among the Ambaſſadors and Miniſters of Princes, and made his Advantage of all that he heard. And he went alſo to the Poſt, and took from thence the Letters which belong'd to Gentlemen of Quality of other Countries, and after the Queen had read them, Seal'd them up again, and carried them back to the Poſt. But as theſe things made him ſerviceable to the Queen's pleaſure, it drew upon him a great number of Enemies, and ſometimes he was in danger of being knock'd in the Head with Stones, or elſe ſeverely Battoon'd. Though he knew neither how to Write nor Read, yet he receiv'd Letters every Poſt, and made an Anſwer regularly therennto, without ever revealing his own Secrets. In fine, after he had liv'd till the 77th year of his Age, he died almoſt ſuddenly at *Rome*, upon the ſame day that Monſieur the Duke *d'Eſtrees* Deceas'd, and had the Impudence to make the Queen his Heir, though he did not leave one Farthing; nay ſo far from it, that her Majeſty was forc'd to Bury him; and afterwards had the goodneſs to pay 500 Crowns that he was Indebted to ſeveral People.

Some time after, the Queen loſt her brave Marquiſs *Del Monte*, at a time when ſhe had moſt need of him to maintain the Franchiſes of her Quarter, which the Pope now began to Diſpute. He died as he had lived, that is to ſay, in Diſorder, having no time to Repent in. The Circumſtances are terrible to relate, but is however neceſſary, were it only for Example ſake. How happy are they who know how to profit by the Faults of others! But for the Coherence of the Story, we muſt take it a little higher.

After the Peace of *Nimeguen*, the Queen who had been ſome Years without her Rents, by reaſon of the War, ſent the Marquiſs *Del Monte* into *Sueden*, where he ſtaid above a Year, to put her Affairs into order, and give an account of her Majeſty's Receivers, who pretended they were not able to pay her. The King of *Sueden* was ſo favourable to the Queen, that he caus'd her Receiver General to uſe ſuch diligence in putting things into good Order, that the Queens Affairs went according to the Marquiſs Mind.

The Court of *Sueden* began to reſpire after ſo many Loſſes, and the Marquiſs paſs'd

pass'd under the Figure of the Queen's Envoy. Where when he had a little settled Matters, he began to call those to an Account who had fingered the Queen's Revenues, and he found many who had been fishing in troubled Waters. The Marquiss wrote to the Queen, and insinuated his Thoughts, and desir'd her Majesty te have some Compassion upon the People, representing that the Wars had put them out of a condition to perform the Obligations of their Leases. The Queen either out of Generosity or Compassion, that she might not beregretted by her ancient Subjects, discharged them of many things; but the Marquiss never discover'd this Nobleness of the Queen, till he had accomodated Matters according to his own Intereſts; for he always minded himself first, and the Queen afterwards. He got new Tenants to some parts of her Estates, and it availed him in such sort, that the ancient Tenants made him Presents, which he greedily took with both hands, and preferr'd them that gave most. After he had continued a long while at *Stockholm*, he went into *Pomerania*, which was the Province from whence most of the Queen's Rents came, where coming

into a City of that Country, he Lodged at one of the Queen's Receiver's, who had great Effects in his Hands, and he treated him with all the Kindneſs imaginable, to lay an obligation upon him to confirm him in his Place. He promis'd to ſerve him effectually, but it was after he had drawn a good Preſent from him; and he ſtaid a great while in that Houſe, expecting as he ſaid, the Queen's Anſwer. But the true reaſon was, the Receiver had Marry'd a very pretty Wife a little before that, and the Marquiſs devour'd her Eyes, and delay'd the time, in hopes to make himſelf Belov'd. The Receiver's Buſineſs oblig'd him to be frequently abſent from his Houſe, which gave *Barbon* an occaſion to let her know how much he was in Love. He was Bold, and ſhe Timerous, ſo that he would eaſily have brought his purpoſes about, if the Receiver's Brother, who did not like the Marquiſs's Proceedings, had not got an inkling of the Matter. The Marquiſs ſeeing this Rub in his way, feign'd that he had receiv'd Letters from the Queen, and that ſhe had ſent him a Blank, deſiring him therefore to get on Horſeback quickly, and go two days Journey from thence,

thence, to find out his Brother, who must come to him, that they might compose their Affairs. This Man being doubtful of the Marquiss's Design, dissembled an Obedience. He got on Horseback, but return'd the same Night, and having left his Horse with a Friend, put himself into an Ambuscade in a Place where he knew the Marquiss would pass to his Fair Sister. Not long after, the Marquiss came, and without any other Weapon but a Sword. He was all in the dark, and walk'd very softly, for fear of Discovery. In the mean while, the young Man, who could not discern Objects, let fly a Pistol in the dark, charg'd with three Bullets, but miss'd the Marquiss on purpose, who fell, and roll'd down the length of a pair of Stairs, which bruis'd his whole Body, and made a dengerous Contusion in his Head. The House was presentld in an Uproar, and the Domesticks run together from every side, and found the Marquiss all in his Biood. None of them knew what to think of such an Accident, but after he had recover'd his Spirit, and the Surgeon laid the first dressing to his Wound, though yet full of Confusion and Fear, he said, That he was coming in at the

noiſe of the Piſtol, but taking a falſe ſtep, had fall'n all along. In the mean time the young Man got away without being perceiv'd, and went to find his Brother as faſt as he could, telling him that the Marquiſs was too dangerous a Gheſt in his Houſe, but told him nothing at all of what had happen'd. At their return, which was next day at Night, the Receiver was amaz'd to underſtand what had happen'd, but the Marquiſs diſſembled it Wiſely, and after they had finiſh'd their Affairs, he return'd for *Stockholm*, to take leave of the King of *Sueden* in order to return for *Rome*.

Being arriv'd at *Hamburgh*, he found there *Teixere* the famous Jew, who expected him to regulate the firſt payment of the Queen's Revenues, which was Ten thouſand *Rix Dollars*, and Five thouſand more which the Farmer-General had ſent upon the Queen's Account. At laſt the Marquiſs arriv'd at *Rome* full of Glory and Riches; for he made his Journey worth thirty or forty thouſand Crowns, where he was receiv'd both by the Queen and Cardinal with great Applauſe, and the Queen's Houſe was put into a good poſture, not forgetting that of the Marquiſs. And the Queen proclaiming

claiming every where that the Marquiſs had done her good Service, ſome time after rais'd him to the Charge of Grand Maſter of her Horſe, which had been vacant ſince the Murder of the Marquiſs *Monaldeſchi*, ordering all her Domeſticks to give him the Title of *Excellence*; which though the Duke of *Poli* refus'd, the reſt Obey'd.

The Marquiſs after his return to *Rome*, follow'd the ſame courſe of Life; but not to trouble the Reader with his Debauches, I ſhall ſay only one word of his diſreſpect both for the Palace and the Queen's Domeſticks; for he ſpar'd neither of them when they came in his way. 'Tis true, he found a free Paſſage in the Inſtance I ſpeak of; but he ought to have ſtopp'd the Scandal, rather than encreaſe it by his own Example. But to come to the particulars.

The Queen's Court being then becom finer than ever, every one fell into ſom Amour or other. *Seignora Giovannila Giuſtiniani*, younger Siſter to *Signora Octavia*, was a very lovely Maid, a little brown, but having all the Ligeaments of her Viſage excellently formed: A fine Stature, together with ſo fine a Neck, that the like was no where to be found. At

firſt when the Queen brought her from her own Village, ſhe was ſimple enough, but the Court Air quickly refin'd her, and ſhe was not very long in taking the humour of being Talkative and Proud; Manners, to which the moſt elevated of that Sex find ſo ſtrong an Inclination. Her Majeſty had a great kindneſs for her, but ſhe abus'd her good will, and became ſo preſumptuous, that ſhe would not acknowledge her Birth. A Page of the Duke *d'Eſtre's* Ambaſſador of *France* was the firſt that offer'd Incenſe at her Altar. He was a young *Italian* Gentleman, well Shap'd, Fair and Gallant, and and had every thing requiſite to create Affection. The Palace *Farneſe* where the Ambaſſador lived, was over againſt the Queen's at *Langara*. The *Tyber* was betwixt them, with a double range of Houſes, but the two Palaces were ſo hoſty, that our two Lovers could eaſily ſee one another upon the Terraſſes, and make Signs of Intelligence. At laſt they found a way to ſend Billets, and the Queen being no way prepoſſeſs'd, took pleaſure in this Foolery. One day the Queen Surprized *Signora Giovannina*, as ſhe was writing a *Billet-deux*; and ſhe was ſo attentive to anſwer her Lover, that

that she did not perceive the Queen when she seiz'd upon her Letter. The poor Girl believ'd she was utterly Ruin'd, for sometimes the Queen, at least to appearance, would make a shew as if she were Severe. *Giovannina* then cast her self at her Feet, apprehending that she should have been ill treated, but she was quickly rid of her fear, for the Queen Smiled, and was so complasant, that having forbidden her to speak of it, she made a Billet for her after her own fashion, which was the most spiritual in the World. Tre Page ravish'd with joy to receive the marks of so obliging a Tenderness, from his Mistress, was so little Master of himself, that either through Vanity, or Indiscretion, he shew'd the Billet to a Gentleman of of the House, who made it known to the Ambassador; but he only Laugh'd, and would see what course and Method these Lovers would take. In the beginning of the Spring, another of the Queen's Maids, named *Portia*, under the pretence of being Indispos'd, got leave of the Queen to take the Air of the Fields every morning with her Kinswoman *Giovannina*, in their Mother's Company. They went out of the Gate of

St.

St. *Pancras*, and going along the Ramparts, re-enter'd by the Gate of the *Light-Horſe*, on St. *Peter*'s ſide. By this means, our Lovers ſaw one another often, but they muſt do it with Secrecy for fear of *Argus*'s, I mean the Old Women, who would no more leave them than their Shadows, according to the Cuſtom of *Italy*. But Love found them out a way to ſee one another more eaſily. For the Page being bold and hardy, got into the Queen's Garden, which was of large Extent, where there was great Walks, ſhaded with fine Greens, and there theſe Virgins came to take the freſh Air every Morning; and they were both agree'd to ſerve one another upon ſuch Occaſions. There the Page and his Miſtreſs were hid together, and without a Witneſs, declar'd their Loves, and ſpoke the tendereſt things in the World. The Pleaſure continued for ſome time, to the great ſatisfaction of both; but their Interview being diſcover'd, ſhe was oblig'd to be more retir'd. The Page, whom theſe Obſtacles made the more ardent, invented new ways to ſee his Miſtreſs; but ſome ſmall difference happening between the Queen and the Ambaſſador, he was

to

to keep at a distance for some time.

The Marquis *de Mala Spina* was the next, who was Gentleman of the Chamber to her Majesty. He was Young, and well Made, extraordinary Handsome, and had a Bon Grace in all that he did: But he was an universal Lover, and manag'd an Amour like a *Roman* Hero. It was only Languishing and Sighs, that expres's'd his Flame at the first, and he was diligent both Night and day, to make her see and understand it. She gave him some Hopes which made it stronger, which were fully to be explain'd by the Marriage Bed. But however the Queen had no inclination to give the poor Gentleman any thing, though he had serv'd her as a Page from his Youth; and her Majesty had bestow'd Favours upon others who had not merited so much as himself. Her Caprice cros's'd this Amour, but his Patience and Assiduity gain'd his Mistresses Heart, insomuch, that she gave him to understand, that if he was not Happy, it would be his own fault. But however, these fair hopes were of no long continuance, for the Count of *Warwick* came in to Traverse 'em, by declaring himself a Lover, and was receiv'd with little Ceremony.

He

He was an *Engliſh* Lord of high Birth, Son to the Earl of *Northumberland*, but being a younger Brother of that Illuſtrious Houſe, which were Perſecuted for their Loyalty to their King, during the Troubles of *England*, rais'd by *Cromwel* and the Parliament, he was oblig'd to ſeek his Fortune in Foreign Courts; and was at laſt recommended to the Queen, who made him *Major Domo*, after the Death of the Marquis *Del Monte*. The Earl of *Northumberland* died at *Florence*, where both himſelf and Family, were Maintain'd by the Bounty of the Grand Duke. Count *Warwick* was of a ſlender Stature, and had an Air of Grandeur, which ſhewed who he was. His Complexion was very delicate, but his Health ſeem'd to be ruin'd, by the paleneſs of his Face, whether it came from his Temperament, or Debaucheries. As to the reſt, his Carriage was the moſt agreeable in the World; and if his Health had been perfectly entire, he had been one of the fineſt Gentlemen in *Italy*.

The Marquiſs *de Mala-Spina* being allarmed at ſo redoubtable a Rival, did not know what to do, daring neither to conceal nor publiſh it, becauſe of the Antipa-

Antipathy of the Queen againſt him: But his good Genius inſpir'd him to go to a Lady of Quality who was Married to a *Roman* Lord, (Captain of a Troop of Light-Horſe in the Pope's Guards) called the Marquiſs *Cavallieri*, his Lady being Siſter to Count *Warwick*. He entreated her to do him the Favour, to repreſent to her Brother, that his Intention in addreſſing himſelf to *Jovannina*, being not to Marry her, he would not croſs a Paſſion, which tended to that Holy Sacrament. The Marchioneſs readily undertook it, for fear her Brother ſhould fall into any Trouble in the Queens Service, and caus'd him to deſiſt; ſo that the Marquiſs was quickly at Repoſe on that ſide.

Jovannina having loſt Count *Warwick*, treated the Marquiſs much better, for fear he ſhould eſcape again; and theſe two Lovers manag'd their Intereſts ſo well, that the Maid (by the Aſcendant ſhe had over the Queen) brought her to conſent that the Marquiſs ſhould make Love to her in the way of Marriage. But Cardinal *Azzolini*, who was afraid the Queen would execute this Project, and ſpend as much Money upon her, as ſhe had done upon

Octavia

Octavia her Elder Sister, turn'd the Queen against it, and broke all the Measures of these poor Lovers, and at last to comfort her said, The Marquis was impotent, and no way fit for Marriage. The poor Girl afflicted with so many Crosses, fell sick, and must take the Air again to dissipate her Sorrows. And she had scarce begun to take Breath, when a certain *Italian* Abbot of some Birth, but little Merit, and full of Vanity, thought it a seasonable time to perswade her to hear of a Passion which he began to have for her. To this purpose he employ'd a Woman, who was one of the Queens Guardrobe, who had not been Cruel in her Youth, and was very proper to tie an Amorous Noose. And as she had an Entrance into the Appartment of the Maids, and some part of their Confidence, it was easie for her to perswade *Jovannina* to have some Complaisance for the Abbot *Vannini*, the same Person that had already dishonoured *Bandiere*'s Daughter

This Maid being dejected at the ill success of her Amours, and the Disgrace of being cast off by so many Lovers, embrac'd the Motion, upon Condition

dition that her Mother approv'd it. The good Mother who liv'd upon nothing but the Wages of the Daughter, and had other Children beſides, and an Husband to maintain, yielded to the Temptation of a Thouſand Crowns which he gave her, and deliver'd up her Daughter to this Villainous Baboon, whom Vanity, and the Difficulty of it, ſtir'd up to ſo hard an Enterpriſe. To come to him, ſhe counterfeited her ſelf ſick once more, and the Queen out of Complaiſance ſent her to *Albani*, where not to lengthen out the Story, the Abbot was ſatisfied.

After fifteen or twenty Days abſence, ſhe return'd to *Rome*, and the Abbot (who found her a delicate Morſel) invented a way to introduce himſelf into the Queens Palace, by means of his Miſtreſſes Confidents. His Liberalities gave him Entrance every where, and ſurmounted all Obſtacles, but he could not do his Buſineſs ſo ſecretly, but that it was found out by the Marquiſs *Del Monte*, for he ſurpriz'd the Lovers in the very flagrant Delight, and threatned to deſtroy them, if he did not come in for a ſhare. And as he was Almighty with the Queen, ſo he had a Talent

to

to make himſelf fear'd: Thus he obtain'd his Wiſhes, and the Abbot always paid the Expence of the Feaſt.

But after all theſe Pleaſures, poor *Jovannina* found her ſelf with Child, which affrighted her, and made her perfectly deſolate, and her Mother became the moſt ſorrowful of all Women; but the Queens Goodneſs ſupply'd all Defects, and ſhe had Remedies given her to take it away, but they had ſo ill ſucceſs that ſhe died, and was interr'd in the Habit of a Carmelite Crown'd, and ſet round with Flowers, for a mark of her Virginity. The Queen wept as much as if ſhe had been a Relation; ſo good was this Princeſs, and ſo full of Tenderneſs for her Domeſticks, that ſhe would have left them all Rich at her Death if they would have permitted her to do it. 'Tis Time that wipes away Tears, and Her Majeſty comforted her ſelf for the loſs of *Jovannina*, by the Acquiſition of another, call'd *Georgina*, who ſurpaſs'd her in all things, but was the innocent cauſe of her Death, as ſhall be related afterwards.

At

At this time the Duke of *Mantua* being come to *Rome*, the Queen did him so great Honours, as none ever received from her before, and the Duke on his side would not be behind her in Civility; but at last the Ceremonies abated both of one and the other side. The Queen was overjoy'd that a Sovereign Prince came to visit her, for no Body would visit her, since she had caus'd the Marquiss *Del Monte* to be Treated with the Title of Excellence; and she was well enough pleas'd, that the Duke of *Mantua* spoke to him by a third Person, as is usual at *Rome* to avoid Disputes, without giving him any Title. Afterward the Marquiss never quitted the Duke all the time he stay'd at *Rome*, who though he came *in cognito*, had the finest number of Followers that any Prince ever had. For almost all the Nobles of his Estates accompanied him, and the *Roman* Cavaliers throng'd in to add to the Number of his Train, but he had the Moderation to hinder his *Guards du Corps* to accompany him on Horseback, giving order that some of them only should follow him on Foot. He Lodged at the Palace *Des Ursins* in *Monte Giordiano*, and the Queen sent him

him every Morning not only her beſt Coach, but two more of the Houſe-Coaches, and one part of her Pages, with Men that bore Staves.

The Duke *d'Eſtrees* Ambaſſadour of *France* did the ſame, to augment his Train, and there came with him Monſieur *Gambaul* the Envoy of *France* to his Highneſs. I ſhall ſay nothing of the Publick Honours done him at *Rome*, the Gazettes have ſpoken enough of it, and therefore I ſhall rather chuſe to make mention of the Private Divertiſements, in which the Marquiſs *Del Monte* was his Procurer, becauſe they are known to very few.

He brought him acquainted with *Georgina*, the Famous Singer, and he was exceedingly Charm'd to hear her Sing one Evening at the Vineyard of *Corſini*, without the Gate of St. *Pancras*, whether he brought her without the Queens Knowledge. He ſaw her often afterwards with the Queen her ſelf, and agreed with her to carry her off, and bring her into his own Eſtates, but ſhe did not keep her Word. Another time he Regal'd the Duke with one *Fani* in the ſame place. She was ſo fine a Widow that ſhe made her ſelf

the

the common Topick of Diſcourſe; inſomuch that her Parents ſhut her up in a Convent, but ſhe found a way to eſcape, and retire into the Queens Quarter.

This anger'd the Pope very much, ſo that having now underſtood ſhe was gone out of the Queens Franchiſe, to meet the Duke of *Mantua* at the Vineyard *Corſini*, gave order for a Bariſeel to ſeize and carry her off, as ſhe return'd from thence. But having timely notice, ſhe was put into one of the Queens Coaches, with her Siſter *La Moſca*, and by this means re-entred the Franchiſes in ſpite of the Pope's Arreſt.

Theſe two Siſters were Daughters to a rich Banker, who had given them Twenty Thouſand Crowns a-piece to their Portions, and had Married them to the moſt Eminent Nobles of *Italy*. *Fani* was of a middle Stature; the turn of her Viſage was very agreeable, Blue Eyes, a fair Skin, and in good Health, fine Teeth, a little Mouth, and very pretty, had not Laughing ſpoil'd it: But her Mind was Fooliſh, and ſhe had little Judgment, and leſs Conduct. Her Siſter, who was call'd *La Moſca*, was not

not quite ſo ſparkling, but all things conſidered, was more eſteem'd then *Fani*. Nevertheleſs ſhe was a well ſhap'd Perſon, of a ſolid Wit, and had the Conduct to appear Fair in the Eye of the World, ſo that her Freaks were known but to few. *Fani*'s firſt Amours were with the Marquiſs *Mari*) who went with her to Comedies all the Carneval, and every Night to a Ball. She had afterwards a great many Lovers, of which many Stories might be made, but this would drive us too far from our Subject.

The Young Marquiſs *Mathew Del Monte*, Son to *Barbon*, became Amorous of her, though he was Married; but to ſpeak the Truth, ſhe was rather Amorous of him; for the Young Marquiſs had all Exteriour Qualities that were fit to render him amiable. He was of a Stature ſomething above the ordinary height, a well made Perſon, and had the Air of a Man of Quality; but Preſumptuous, deſpiſing his Equals, and ſo conceited of his Birth, that his Vanity made him inſupportable, which yet notwithſtanding proceeded only from his Youth.

After

After his Return from *France*, his Father would Marry him to the Niece of the Marquiſs *Monaldeſchi*, the ſame whom the Queen had Sacrific'd to her Reſentment in the Gallery of *Fontainbleau*: Her Majeſty being deſired to give her Conſent, did it accordingly, and it was a great Advantage to the Marquiſs, for ſhe was an only Daughter, very Rich, and yet more accompliſh'd by her Vertues, but the pooreſt Lady in *Italy* for Beauty, though ſhe had a fine Stature and an Air good enough, when ſhe was Maſqued. The Young Marquiſs having underſtood this laſt Quality, would not Marry her, though he eſteem'd her other Perfections, being paſſionately in Love with *Gabrieli* Niece to a Cardinal of the ſame Name, who was very handſome. But the Marquiſs his Father being more tied to his own Intereſt than his Son's Satisfaction, would be obey'd. The Son reſiſted, but the Father outragious with Choler, and mad that his Son contemned ſo great Advantages, and the Opportunity of making his Fortune, ſet a Poniard to his Throat to compel him to reſolve upon't. The Queen, when ſhe came to her Preſence, knew

knew ſo well how to flatter her, that ſhe gave her ſelf up to her Reaſons, and ſo the Marriage was concluded by Her Majeſty's means: By which we may know that Hatred is not Immortal; for ſhe was willing upon this occaſion, to give ſatisfaction to the Memory of her Uncle, by the Honours ſhe would do to his Neice. The Nuptial Benediction was performed in the Queens Chappel, and in her Preſence, where ſhe often told the Husband leaning upon his Shoulder, *Ah how well ſhap'd and Charming is your Bride*! But he turning aſide his Head, becauſe he would not give a diſreſpect to Her Majeſty, always anſwer'd, That he knew the contrary but too well. The Young Marquiſs contain'd himſelf for ſome time within the Duties of Marriage, but at laſt flew off, and embarked himſelf with *Fani*, who became Fooliſh, and paſs'd eight times a Week in a Coach by *Langara*, to ſee and be ſeen of the Young Marquiſs. Every Body laugh'd in the Palace-Windows, but as on the one hand Love cannot be altogether reſtrain'd, ſo on the other, ſhe ought to have manag'd things better, both to avoid Scandal, and for her own Intereſts. For the

Prince

Prince of *Belleville* who Maintain'd her at that time, could not endure this Commerce, and threatned to forsake her, if she did not break off this new Intrigue. She would not loose him, not so much for his Merit, as Liberalities to her, and therefore constrain'd her self for some time. The Marquis who was of an hot Temper, and Transported of a suddain, threatned to destroy all things, if she did not regard him better, as if the Lady could Live upon his good Mein and Vigour, for that was all he paid her.

One Day as she pass'd by his House tel in a Coach, being Transported with Choler, he came immediately down Stairs, cut the Harness of her Coach, and gave her many Blows on the Face, speaking all the Vile and most Infamous Things, that could be said to Common Whores. Poor *La Mosea*, who was in the Coach with her, thought she should have died for fear. *Fani* suffer'd her self to be thus abused, and did nothing but cry; but the Spectators were like Stocks, immoveable at the Sight of the Tragedy, for there was never any Example before of so criminal an Insolence. So the Pope, who was a great

Enemy to these Scandals, caus'd them both to be Arrested, and would have sent the Marquis to the Castle of St. *Angelo*, if he could have got him out of the Queens Quarter: But at last Cardinal *Colonna* did remonstrate to the Pope, that the two Sisters being Widows, were not oblig'd to live with the same Circumspection as if their Husbands were living.

The good Prince *Belleville*, employ'd all his Interest to obtain her Liberty, believing that after so publick an Affront, she would have broke entirely with him. But he was very much mistaken, for she was no sooner out of Hold, but she immediately fled into the Queens Quarter, who receiv'd her very well, and was mightily overjoy'd she had got this Celebrated *Fani*, who was every where talk'd of as one of the most perfect and exact Beauties. She kept her continually afterwards, till in the Young Marquis's Absence, who was sent into *Sweden*, the Father got her sent away, and would not permit her to return any more.

After the Departure of the Duke of *Mantua*, and the Death of the Prince *Colombier*, the old Marquis who ought to

to have retir'd by reaſon of his great Age, begun to make Love more than ever. The Marquiſs *Cincinnatus*, who drew his Nobility from the antient *Romans* of this famous Name, as 'tis thought, but whoſe Riches did not anſwer his Quality, had Married one of the fineſt Women of *Italy*, who was of mean Birth, but Rich, and though ſhe had brought him many Children, had not yet loſt that luſtre which ſparkled in all her Perſon. Her Stature was of a middle ſize, but ſlender, her Complexion fine and united; her Eyes, Mouth and Teeth in a rare Perfection; and beſides had a Wit that was lively, pleaſant and agreeable. The Marquiſs who had a numerous Family upon his Hands, had a mind to enter into the Queens Service, in Quality of a Gentleman of her Chamber, which was eaſie for him to obtain by the Credit of the Marquiſs *Del Monte*, who procur'd it more for his Wifes ſake than his own. The Tye that was between the two Marquiſſes, being now both in the Queens Service, gave *Barbon* a free acceſs to the Fair *Riga*, Wife to *Cocles*, for ſo was *Cincinnatus* called, becauſe he had but a ſhort ſight. The Queen that knew all that

paſs'd, (for *Barbon*, to divert her, told her all his good Fortune) ſaid, ſpeaking of *Cocles*, That he had an happy ignorance of what was done at his Houſe; for his ſhort ſight hinder'd him from ſeeing many things which otherwiſe would terribly vex him. He ſeem'd to do what he could not underſtand when himſelf was ſpoken of; and yet he was perpetually at the Queens, where he paſs'd his time in telling of News with the other Courtiers. The Marquiſs *Del Monte* was ſo charmed with his Miſtreſs the Fair *Riga*, that he reſolv'd from henceforward to fix all his Love upon her; ſo that he did all that he could to make himſelf agreeable; he ſpent more than ordinary, Regal'd his Miſtreſs often, took care to inform himſelf in the New Modes, that he might bring her News of it, and was very liberal towards the Ladies Domeſticks, and others who aſſiſted him in his Amour. And whereas when he was threeſcore Years of Age, he endeavour'd to ſupport his Vigour by Art. But one Day being more than ordinarily heated, he ſlept upon his Miſtreſſes Bed till Dinner time; and as it happen'd, the Abbot *Cincinnatus* the Marquiſſes his Brother came in unawares, with-

without being perceiv'd, and saluting his Fair Sister, was extreamly surpriz'd to see *Barbon* sleeping upon the Bed: He demanded of the Fair *Riga* from whence this Sottishness proceeded? She presently answer'd, That the Marquiss being come to see *Cincinnatus*, was taken with a Faintness, which oblig'd him to lie upon the Bed. *That's all Trifle*, (reply'd the Abbot) *'tis you have put him out of Breath.* *Riga* fell into Tears, and answer'd, *Alas Monsieur, I hope you will not kill him?* *No, Madam*, (answer'd the Prelate) *you will much oblige me to kill him your self.* The Marquiss awak'd with the Noise, and being much surpris'd to find himself in such a place with so good Company, said in his own excuse, That he came thither to seek for *Cincinnatus* from the Queen, and being taken with a Faintness and Stupidity of Brain, he was constrain'd to lay himself down upon the first Bed he found. This Prelate who was very wise, and did not think it convenient to make a noise of it, left the Guilty to their Remorse, and pretended to change the Discourse, but could not hinder himself from saying, *Marquiss have a care of your self, and manage it so with her, that you remember*

you are no more Young; Reflect upon what I have ſaid, and turn it as you pleaſe: And ſo being a little more pleaſant he retir'd; but *Riga* all in confuſion ſhut her ſelf up in her Cloſet, and the Marquiſs went away in all haſte.

In the mean time the Pope was perfectly oppreſſed with the Complaints daily made of the Diſorders committed in the Franchiſes, and particularly in the Queens Quarter. He lamented that he was the only Sovereign that could not be Maſter of his Capital City, and could not hinder the greateſt Diſorders. This at laſt confirm'd him in the Reſolution, to execute the Deſign he had long before conceived of aboliſhing theſe Franchiſes of Quarters, and he did it a while after with a Courage that was not to be ſhaken. He was always of this Mind, that it would put Tranquility and Calmneſs among Families, honeſt and fair Dealing into Trade and Commerce, and would make the City ſecure. And it is ſo true that the fear of Puniſhment is neceſſary to Mankind, and Nature without Grace ſo corrupt, that the hope of Impunity carries Men on inſenſibly to commit the greateſt Crimes. 'Tis certain, that if this Affair

fair had been well brought about, it would have Immortaliz'd the Pope who began the Enterprise. In truth he had all the Zeal that was necessary upon such an occasion; but being encompassed by People who were declar'd Enemies to a Crown he ought to have the greatest respect for, he was carried on to those Excesses that everlastingly sullied the high Reputation which he had acquir'd by his Innocence and Holy Life. But before we enter into a Discussion of this great Affair, where the Queen had a considerable share, we must make an end of the History of the Marquis *Del Monte*.

In the time the Queen united her Interests with those of the Marquis *Lavardin* Ambassador of *France*, to obtain satisfaction of the Pope, for the Violence of his Ministers concerning the Quarters. *Barbon* perswaded the Queen to make a Serenade to spight the Pope, and so much the rather seeing the Season was proper for it: And accordingly Couplets and Songs were made, and recited with Consorts of Instruments; the most famous Musicians in *Rome* being of the Party, with two of the finest Singers the Queen had, *Georgina* or *Angelica*,

gelica, and *Mariouche* or *Maronte* Daughter of *Barbon* and *Landini*. They made alſo an Amphitheatre in a little Garden of Jeſſamy, which was towards the Street, at the Appartment of Marquiſs *Del Monte*, over againſt the Queens Palace, where there was great preparation; for there was a number of Galleries built for the Ladies, and he fail'd not to put the Fair *Riga* in full view, by building a Place on purpoſe for her and her Friends. There was alſo many Repetitions in the Queens great Hall, the laſt of which was extraordinary, by Illuminations and an hundred ſort of Inſtruments and fine Voices which anſwer'd the Harmony, which was moſt Charming. That which was moſt extraordinary, was to ſee Marquis *Del Monte* beſtir himſelf to put all things in order, and command every one to his Duty. The Fair *Riga*, with other Ladies, whoſe Husbands had any Charge under the Queen, ſate in little Boxes on the upper part of the Hall, and there was nothing to be heard, but the yauling of the Feminine Voice of the Marquiſs. He was all on fire through the Vehemence of the Action, and after all was done, thruſt himſelf forward

to

to re-conduct the Ladies, and do the Honours of the Houſe; the laſt Careſſes which he made, were to *Mariouche* his dear Daughter, applauding her that ſhe had Sung ſo well this Night. The Queen was pleas'd to the higheſt point, that her Opera ſucceeded ſo well, commended the Marquiſs before his Face, and withdrew very late; and the *Scandalous Chronicle* ſaith, That ſhe went to abandon her ſelf with the Fair *Riga*. Being retir'd at laſt to his own Houſe, he drank a great deal of Soup, and Sup'd well, and among other things eat a Sallad of Cellery well prepar'd.

Afterwards he went to Bed, and roſe next Morning about eleven of the Clock, to ſhave himſelf, and at the ſame time was taken with an heavineſs in his Head, and palpitation of his Heart: Quickly after he fell into a kind of Convulſion Fit, which made him lean his Head on the Back of his Chair; he fell a foaming at the Mouth, his Face was ſwell'd and diſcolour'd, and his Eyes ſtar'd. All the Houſe was in an Allarm, and the Crys and Tears came to the Queens Ears, who ran thither preſently; but ſeeing him ſtiff and in this Condition, was ſtruck with ſuch an Horrour that

ſhe return'd all in Confuſion, and had not the Courage to ſpeak one word of Comfort to any. To make ſhort, he never came out of his Fit, but died ſuddainly without Senſe, and his Enemies ſpread it abroad, that the Devil ſtrangl'd him; and others ſaid, that having ſet at naught, both the Pope's Remonſtrances and Threatnings, God had viſibly puniſht him. But 'tis moſt probable, that his continual Debauches having exhauſted him, together with his great Age, were the occaſion of his Immature Death.

By the Conſequence of this Hiſtory, ſhewing the irregular Conduct of the greateſt part of the Queens Officers, it is eaſie to judge of the great Diſorders which reign'd in her Quarter. This was one of the ſpecious Pretences of Pope *Innocent* XI. to abrogate the Franchiſes of the Queens, and Ambaſſadors Quarters; as if there had been no way to ſtop the Diſorders of particular Perſons, but by taking away the Rights of Sovereigns. But the Pope found more difficulty in the Execution, than he had foreſeen in the Project. He renewed the Bulls of the Popes his Predeceſſors about the Revocation of Franchiſes, but

but no Body desisted; he remonstrated to Ambassadors, That the Disorders committed in *Rome*, came from the Immunities of Quarters; and that they had authoriz'd the Fault by protecting the Criminals. But seeing they gave no heed to him, he spoke to the Princes of *Europe* by his Nuncio's, in which they succeeded no better than the Pope had done. For the Ambassadours wrote to their Masters, and they took the Remonstrances to come as from Persons suspected to act in favour of their own Interests.

In the mean time, if the Princes themselves had faithfully understood the Disorders committed in these Quarters, it is not to be imagin'd they would have much insisted upon those Immunities, for no Body can perswade himself that any Prince has pretended by maintaining the Franchises of their Ambassadors, to make them a Retreat to Thieves, Assassins, and Debauch'd Women. They would without doubt give orders to remit them into the Hands of Justice, though refug'd in their Quarters, or their Palaces themselves. But seeing the Affair advanc'd not, the Pope was forc'd with displeasure to expect

that

that from Time which he could not obtain by Force. He reſerv'd himſelf therefore for a better Opportunity, reſolving that when Princes ſhould recall their Ambaſſadors, he would receive no others, till ſuch time as they had renounc'd theſe Franchiſes. This way was eaſier, though longer about, and it ſucceeded better than the violent Courſes he had took. *Spain* by and by recall'd the Marquiſs *Del Carpio* her Ambaſſador, to ſend thither the Viceroy of *Naples*, in the beginning of the Year 1683. The Pope immediately after his Departure, ſent all his Sbirries to take poſſeſſion of his Quarter, in the Place *d'Eſpaign*, and ſcowr'd it of all the Malefactors that were retired thither. The Quarters of the Ambaſſadors of *Venice* and *Portugal* were recover'd in the ſame manner; that is to ſay, by the Departure of thoſe that poſſeſs'd them. Prince *Radzeville* the Ambaſſador of *Poland*, who made his Entry in the Year 1680, and the Lord *Caſtlemain* Ambaſſador of *England*, in the Year 1686, were neither of them acknowledg'd in this Quality, till they had declar'd that they would not pretend to Franchiſes, or Quarters. The Pope would never receive

ceive the Marquiſs *Cogliudo* Son of the Duke of *Medina Celi*, new Ambaſſador from *Spain*, but upon the Aſſurances of the Marquiſs *de les Balbazes*, that this Ambaſſador ſhould pretend neither to Franchiſe nor Quarter, in caſe other Ambaſſadors did likewiſe renounce them.

There was none now at *Rome* which enjoyed either Franchiſes or Quarters, but the *French* Ambaſſador, which gave occaſion for a Song which was then in faſhion, whoſe Ends ſounded like one another in two Syllables.

SONG.

DAns Rome qui n'eſt plus la terreur de
——l'Afrique
Depuis que ſes Soldats chantent none au
——Bivach
Que ſes Elections ſe forment par——
Micmac
Et que ſes Senateurs ſont Maitres de——
Muſique.

Ceux là cedans, la France a tort dans ſon
——Refus
Les Cadets a l'aîné doivent fair le——
Planche
Selon le reſultat de Conſeil de——Bibus:

Là

Là nul Ambaſſadeur par belle —— *Politique*
Ne ſera non plus franc qu'un Merchand de —— *Tabac*
Es ſans aucun reſpect nec ab hoc nec —— *Ab hac*
Les Sbirres paſſeront par ſon palais de —— *Brique.*

Les Juriſdictions n'iront pas plus —— *Ultra*
Portugal, Angleterre, Veniſe, & —— *Cætera*
Méme l'Ambaſſadeur du pais Don —— *Sanche.*

No ſooner was the Duke *d'Eſtrees* Dead, towards the end of *Jan.* 1687. but the Sbirries came preſently and appear'd at the Palace of *Farneſe*, and took Poſſeſſion of the Quarter. Monſieur the Cardinal *d'Eſtrees* who receiv'd this Loſs of his Illuſtrious Brother, like a true Chriſtian, with the Sentiments of an enlightned Soul, did not think of maintaining the Right of the Franchiſes, believing that there was no preſcription in the caſe, and that the King being better eſtabliſhed in the Enjoyment of Quar-

Quarters than any other Prince, would have time enough to repreſs thoſe who pretended to take them away; and ſo his Eminence immediately left the Palace *Farneſe*, and went to Lodge at the Vineyard of *Pamphilio*.

In the mean time the Queen of *Sweden* was the only Perſon remaining, who had any Poſſeſſion of Quarters; and they preſently became the moſt frequented in *Rome*, and *Langara* which was the moſt deſert, became now the moſt populous part of the City. So that all Lewd People being retir'd thither, there was every Day new Stories, and nothing in *Rome* was more talk'd of, than the Adventures of *Langara*. The Pope who was very ſenſible of it, ſometimes ſpoke to Cardinal *Azzolini* and ſometimes to the Queen, expreſſing his Reſentments, but it was all to no purpoſe.

After all, he ſaw plain enough that notwithſtanding all his Endeavours, he had done nothing, as long as there was any Aſylum, or place of Refuge, left for Criminals to fly to. But at laſt the Queen by the Meaſures of ill concerted Politicks, remitted her Right of Franchiſes into the Pope's Hand, of which ſhe

ſhe was not long before ſhe repented. She knew well enough that her Title to theſe Immunities was not over well founded; nor durſt ſhe pretend to them, in either of the Voyages which ſhe made to *Rome*, in the Year 1655. and 1659. and yet ſhe ſhewed afterwards as great a difficulty to part with them, than if they had been the Rights of her Crown. Neither had ſhe over-done it at all, if the unſetled State of her Affairs had not engag'd her to endeavour to manage the Pope in favour of her own Intereſts. See here the Contents of a Letter which ſhe writ to him after the Death of the Duke *D'Eſtrees* Ambaſſador of *France*.

Moſt Holy Father,

TO ſecond the Juſt Intentions of your Holineſs, in aboliſhing the Franchiſes of Quarters, I come to offer you to reſign for ever mine, which the Juſtice and Courteſie of your Holineſs, and your Predeceſſors have permitted me to enjoy without diſturbance till this preſent, reſerving nevertheleſs the Reſpects due both to my Habitation and Domeſticks. I acknowledge that I offer nothing to your Holineſs, but what is your own; and can we offer any thing to

God

God Almighty but what is his already? But yet the Offer is not only acceptable, but recompenc'd by the immenſe Bonnty, with unſpeakable and eternal good things. As for my ſelf, I neither pretend to, nor deſire any thing of your Holineſs, I only pray you to accept this my Example, which perhaps may not be unuſeful in the preſent Conjuncture of Affairs. I proteſt that I am with a profound Veneration,

Your Holineſſes

Moſt Devote,

and moſt Obedient Daughter,

Chriſtina Alexandra.

This good Princeſs did believe ſhe ſhould bring the Princes of *Europe* to agree; and that her Example would cauſe even *France* to give up her Franchiſes; but ſhe was miſtaken, for the Moſt Chriſtian King while theſe things were in doing ſent the Marquiſs *de Lavardin* his Ambaſſadour to the Pope. This Miniſter entred *Rome* the 16th of *Novembor* 1687. and went to live at the Palace *Farneſe*, where he re-eſtabliſhed the

the Franchiſes of his Quarter, during all the time of his Abode, upon the ſame foot his Predeceſſors had enjoy'd them time out of mind.

To ſpeak the truth, the Pope's Predeceſſors had never contraven'd the Rights of *France*; for they knew too well from whom they had the Patrimony of St. *Peter*. They acknowledg'd the Kings of *France* as the only Protectors of the Holy See; *Pepin* and *Charlemagne* having highly declar'd themſelves againſt the Enemies of the Popes, and made it their proper buſineſs to enter into War in their behalf: They themſelves beſtow'd on them the Exarchal of *Ravenna*, and the other Provinces of the Patrimony of the Holy Foundation of the Church of *Rome*, after the Defeat of all their Enemies: So that all this, and an infinite number of other Services which the Kings of *France* had render'd the Church, made Popes to diſtinguiſh them from all the Princes of *Europe*. 'Tis true, that notwithſtanding all this, the Ingratitude of Prieſts is ſo great, that there is no Statue of *Pepin* or *Charlemagne* to be found in *Rome*, nor the leaſt Inſcription in their Honour. If Pope *Innocent* XI. had no mind to hear

the

the recital of all these Donations, nor search into Antiquity unknown to him, he might at least have call'd to Memory the Treaty of *Pisa*, concluded in these Days, wherein the Possession of the Franchises were confirmed to the *French*. But the Spirit of Partiality, which ought never to reign in the Common Father of Christians, hindred *Innocent* XI. from entring into these Reasons, and made him push on things to a Scandalous Extremity. If he had as soon given Audience to the Marquis *de Lavardin*, or Monsieur *Chanclay* Envoy of *France*; as to the Envoy of the Prince of *Orange*, he had known the true Sentiments of *France*. All the World knows that this Minister had order to remit the Franchises, if the Pope would have given him a present Audience, but not being able to obtain that, which was yet accorded to a Protestant, he would not yield up his inconteſtable Rights. But this drives us off too far from our Subject; we will therefore return to see the Consequences of the Queens dismission of her Franchises, which cost her so much Displeasure and Uneasiness. We shall understand it best from the following Relation which was sent me from

from *Leghorn*, by a *French* Officer of the Queen's, who went thither to ſeek for an Employ. As he was Her Majeſty's Confident after *Clairet*'s Death, no Body knew the Queen's Secrets better than himſelf; and therefore having deſir'd him to inſtruct me, as to what paſs'd upon that occaſion, I ſhall relate it according to the Words of his own Writing.

The Queen of *Sweden* having promis'd, and afterwards written an eloquent Letter to Pope *Innocent* the XI. (wherein ſhe makes the Reſignation with a great deal of Zeal to pleaſe his Holineſs) quickly ſaw her Error, and the Injury ſhe had thereby done to her ſelf. For whether it were that ſhe had not uſed all the Precautions that were neceſſary to make this Action valuable, or pretended that the Pope ought to have given her thanks, or rather becauſe her People were accuſtom'd to an inſupportable Liberty, and could not be contain'd within Bounds; but ſo it was, that the Ceſſion of the Franchiſe did not laſt above two Months, before the Queen receiv'd Diſcontent and Vexation from it every way.

The firſt thing that was ſeen was a Battallion

Battallion of *Sbirries*, with their Bariſeil at the Head of them, to take poſſeſſion of the Quarter with inſupportable Pride. The Pope made theſe Scoundrels inſolent by the Power given them, and it was the reaſon that we look'd upon them with Contempt; and it did ſo much the more mortifie all the Domeſticks, in that they were not us'd to be vex'd with ſuch Rogues with whom they had never any thing to do before.

At laſt happen'd an Accident which was the Cauſe of all the Miſchief that might be foreſeen. A Valet of one of the Queen's Anſpeſſades, had cheated a Banker of ſome Barrels of Brandy; and the *Sbirri*'s, whether of their own Motion, or excited by ſome of the Queen's Enemies, took him Priſoner upon *Eaſter*-Day, near the Queen's Palace, and dragg'd him as far as the Steps of the Church *de Regina Cœli*, which is at *Longara*. Many Footmen, and others of the Queen's Domeſticks, who went to St. *Peter*'s for their Devotion, cry'd out to the *Sbirri*'s as they went along, that it was a ſhame to take him upon *Eaſter*-Day, without regard to the Sanctity of the Feſtival.

This did not terrifie them at all; for they

they brought their Priſoner to a Cabaret, keeping him by main force, though they remonſtrated to them that he belong'd to her Majeſty. The Queen having underſtood it, ſent to diſengage him, being angry that they had not ask'd her permiſſion to take him. He was taken away by force, out of the hands of theſe Raſcals, and brought back in Triumph to *Langara*, the People crying out *Vivat* to the Queen, and Hooting at the *Sbirri*'s. But this caus'd a great Noiſe; for the Pope taking Offence, that they had committed Violence to the Miniſters of his Juſtice, and enterpriz'd upon his Authority, made a Criminal Proceſs againſt all thoſe that had a ſhare in this buſineſs, and condemned them all as ſeditious.

The Queen being ſtark mad to ſee the *Placards*, ſtuck upon the Walls of her Palace, wherein the pretended Criminals were condemn'd to Death for Contumacy, and their Heads ſet at a Price, kept no farther meaſures with the Pope; and to brave him, took the occaſion of a Feaſt which the Jeſuits made, whiſhe went with a magnificent Train, accompanied by all her Domeſticks, arm'd like ſo many St. *Georges* under their Habits:

Habits: The Condemn'd had order to follow her Majesty at the sides of her Coach, with the three accus'd *Anspessades*, and nine others, which made up the number of a dozen all well-arm'd, and resolute to the uttermost.

I remember poor Captain *Landini* who had before pass'd for a Man of Courage, considering the danger, fell a trembling when he went out of the Port *Settignana*; and whereas he should have follow'd the Queen at the Head of the *Anspessades*, was forc'd to be put into one of the Queen's Coaches, being as pale as a dead Man. However they seem'd to take no notice of it at the Apostolick Palace, but on the contrary, the Pope regal'd her Majesty with some Basons of Fruit, the first of which, I remember, was green Raisins, a Rarity for the Month of *May*, as then it was. A Chamberlain of Honour presented them to the Queen, who gave him no more than ordinary Thanks; but after he was gone, look'd upon me, and said, What does *Mingon* mean with his Raisins? She spoke of the Pope; who, being of an austere Temper, refus'd almost every Favour asked of him, with this Word *Minga*; which is

is as much as to ſay, No, or not at all, in the *Milaneſe* Language, or in the Countrey of *Spain*, from whence the Queen gave him the Nick-name of *Mingon*.

Does he think, ſaid ſhe, we are aſleep, No, I will vex him in my turn. She then gave Orders, that as many *Sbirries* as paſs'd by her Quarter, ſhould be taken up. One *Merula*, a *Neopolitan Bandit*, whom the Queen had taken from Juſtice, which would have puniſh'd him for ſome Crimes committed in the Realm of *Naples*, was her Bravo. And indeed this Man, though but of few Words, was a wicked Devil; for he would Kill a Man upon the leaſt occaſion, or for Money, if you pleas'd. There was then a Corporal of the *Sbirries*, who had Inſolence enough to ſpeak ſome ill things of the Queen, and to boaſt an Exploit which he had done in her Quarter; but he did not live long after this Temerity, for he was Kill'd by *Merula*, at Noon day, as he was going out of his Houſe, near the Governor's of *Rome*. The Pope enrag'd at the Death of this Man, redoubl'd his Edicts againſt the Queen's People; and and came to ſuch a point of Choler, that he propos'd in a Conſiſtory to Excom-

communicate the Queen. But Monſieur the Cardinal *D'Eſtrees* ſo ſtrongly repreſented to his Holineſs, that he muſt have more circumſpection in regard of Crown'd Heads; and that it could not be prov'd that the Queen was the cauſe of it, that it hinder'd his Holineſs from coming to this Extremity. And 'tis remarkable, that the Queen, who had often vexed his Eminence upon many occaſions, found no body but him to maintain her Intereſts, for I think Cardinal *Azzolini* was then Sick. In the mean time, things grew worſe and worſe, inſomuch, that the Queen having underſtood that the Pope would ſend all the *Sbirries* to carry away the Condemn'd by force out of her Palace, order'd the Marquiſs *Del Monte* to give Notice to all her Houſhold to be in her Palace on Sunday after Maſs. All the Domeſticks were there, and above all, the Gentlemen were the firſt that heard the Queen's Speech.

She ſaid,

"Gentlemen, and all you others my "Domeſticks, I have brought you hi-"ther to tell you, That the *Pope* is "coming to the Sword's Point with "me, by forcing my Domeſticks, your

" Comerades, into the hands of Juſtice;
" I am reſolv'd not to forſake them,
" and therefore thoſe that are in my Ser-
" vice, muſt prepare themſelves to run
" the ſame Fortune with me, and to
" repulſe couragioſly thoſe Violences
" that will be offer'd; I will be at your
" Head, and expos'd to the ſame Perils
" with all of you. You know me, and
" underſtand by ſome Actions of my
" Life, that I am not Fearful; let thoſe
" that have not Courage to ſerve me,
" declare it, for I will force no body.
" I know the Pope is your Sovereign,
" and if any Intereſt oblige you to retire,
" thoſe that have a mind, may do it
" freely; I had rather have ten Coura-
" gious Men, who are willing, and will
" be Faithful, than a thouſand timerous
" Perſons and Cowards, who for fear of
" prejudicing their Affairs, are not wil-
" ling to run the ſame Fortune with
" me.

They all applauded the Speech, but you might ſee by their Faces, that one half of them could have wiſh'd themſelves far enough off. I was a File-cloſer, or the laſt Man that brings up the Ranks, and caſt my ſelf at the Queen's Feet, aſſuring her, that any Intereſt

Intereſt of the Family, ſhould make my ſpend the laſt drop of my Blood in her Service. Go my poor *N.* ſaid ſhe to me, I know thou ſpeakeſt from thy Heart, and one time or other, I will take an opportunity to let thee know, that I am fully perſwaded of it. Not I alone, Madam, (ſaid I,) but all the *French* that are in *Rome*, will take it for a Glory, to die in your Majeſty's Service. I know ſaid ſhe, the *French* Nation loves me, and as I always Eſteem them, I ſhall freely receive their Service. The good Princeſs in a Tranſport, fell into a Panegyrick upon the *French* Nation, exalting to the Skies, their Fidelity and Love to their King, and for all the Princes they took an inclination to Serve.

The Pope, when he underſtood the Queen's Reſolutions, fell a Laughing, as he had reaſon. Nevertheleſs, ſome of the Court-Prelates took the liberty to repreſent to the Pope, that if he puſh'd things to extremity, he would cauſe a Mutiny among the People, and eſpecially by the *French*, who were not well ſatisfied about the Proceedings of the Court of *Rome*, and having but the leaſt Pretence, ſuch as that of the Queen's was, would blindly follow her Will. 'Tis

certain that these Reflections did a little slacken the Court-Resolutions. But while these things were doing, the Queen call'd to me after Dinner. At first when I came, I fell on my Knees before her, as she was sitting on a Couch. I send for you now, said she, because I would be seen by no body else, for now every one is at Rest, because of the Heat. And indeed there was no body about her. I remember (pursu'd her Majesty) what you said to me some days ago: The Pope continues his Anger, and though he be Pope, I will make him remember I am Queen. You know all the *French* which are in this City; manage them, for I shall have occasion, and I esteem an hundred *French*, more than a thousand *Italians*. I have already provided (said I, Madam) the greater part of the *French*, which I esteem the most Brave, and who have no settlement in *Rome*, but seek for some Business, or an occasion to shew their Bravery. Your Majesty knows, that as the *French* Nation is Persecuted at *Rome* under this Pontificate, because of the Differences between the two Courts, upon the Subject of the Regalia, and the four Propositions of the Clergy of *France*; So,

Madam,

Madam, the profound Veneration which the *French* have for your Majesty, and Hatred to the Pope, will make them enterprize all things. If your Majesty will be so kind to permit me to do it, I will bring you Fifty, all good Men, who shall pass under your View, without their knowing of it.

The Queen approved my Design; and the way I took was this. Whereas, her Majesty's Palace was adorn'd with precious Moveables, fine Pictures, and excellent Statues, which were inviting to Strangers. It was not difficult for me to bring whole shoals to see these Rarities at certain Hours. A *Valet de Chambre*, who was a Confident, had order to leave all Open; So I brought in every time Nine or Ten Persons; and when I had introduc'd them into the Chamber of the *Mirroir of Time*, where all the fine Paintings were; She could see them without being seen her self, by means of certain Windows which were above, near the Ceiling. One day above the rest, I brought in a certain *French* Grenadier, who had Deserted; he look'd upon the Queen's Picture very earnestly, and cry'd, *Oh, how great a Queen is this! Gods Zds, Why is she not at the head*

of her Armies, as heretofore, I would Serve her willingly. I ſaid to him, *Monſieur*, If there ſhould be an occaſion, you would hardly be of the ſame mind. Yes by G. anſwers my Brave, *I have half a Dozen Comerades beſides, which ſhall be at her Service.* Well, ſaid I, Gentlemen, you have ſeen all, let us go and drink her Majeſty's Health. Judge you whether I did not do my buſineſs to effect, for ſhe ſent for me again, and as ſoon as ſhe ſaw me, ſaid, *Oh, how well things go! theſe are the People I muſt have: Get in beſides, ſome Trades-People if you can, for they are, for the moſt part, as good as Soldiers.* So I went to her Shoemaker and her Taylor, who had got ten Boys a piece, all Merry Lads. I declar'd my ſelf to their Maſters, and as I could truſt them with the Secret, I told the Lads, that the Queen had given me a Piſtol to make them Drink. Her Majeſty, who would ſee all, made me bring them into a great Cabbaret, at the Port *Settignana*, over againſt one of her Apartments, where ſhe could both ſee and hear us. We were there in the Afternoon under a Tree, which caſt a great Shade: There was an Arbor in the Branches, and Banks round about,

into

into the Apartments of which Places you must enter by a Wooden Bridge, where there was Conveniencies for 20 Men, without incommoding one another. These Merry Blades began to Sing and drink the Queen's Health: She heard all, and took a great deal of Pleasure in the Applauses given her; so that she sent a Footman, who gave order to the Landlord, to distribute a dozen Bottles of Wine, to redouble her Healths. This Surpriz'd me, because I would have conducted this Affair with all the Secrecy imaginable, till such time as I had brought the Train to Perfection. I saw her Majesty next day, and she told me all went well. Madam, said I to her, I manage my People, and do not declare my self, but to those that I am sure will make no noise, till the time comes, according to your Majesty's Orders; But if I durst, I would ask, on whose behalf it was, that we were Yesterday Regal'd with a dozen Bottles of Wine, because I am apprehensive lest it should discover my Intrigue. The Queen, whose intention it was to make a noise, fell a Laghing, and told me, she was very well pleas'd with my Conduct. And to make short, in three

or four days time I was assur'd of four or five Hundred Men. The *Pope*, who had Notice given him, that the Queen Fortified her self, and knew very well that the *French* were ill satisfied with their hard Usage, began to fear some Rising; but his Humour being severe and inflexible, he did not come to any terms of Accomodation. Yet at last, by the means of Monsieur *Albani*, Secretary of the Briefs, who Succeeded Cardinal *Sinsius*, and wore the Purple by his proper Merit, who was of great Credit with the Queen, and to whom the Pope always listned, and the Endeavours of Cardinal *Azzolini*, things began to sweeten and come into a better temper. *Albani* went to Visit the Queen as from himself, and at first talk'd about things indifferent, but insensibly fell into the Quarrel between the Pope and the Queen. She complain'd, that the *Pope* treated her with Rigour; and the Prelate assur'd her Majesty, that his intentions were good, but complain'd that her Majesty suffer'd her self to be possess'd by certain People of her Court, who proceeded contrary to his Interests. *Then we are both equal in the matter*, saith the Queen briskly, *for he is more possess'd than*

than I, seeing his Ministers create Trouble to all People. Monsieur *Albani* sweetned the matter as well as he could, representing to her Majesty, that what anger'd the *Pope* most, was, that it seem'd to him as if the Queen had a mind to make a Sedition in *Rome*, by raising the People. "I had no such thought (said she) "for I know too well my Duty towards "His Holiness to do any thing of that "nature; But I would take such mea-"sures that may put him in mind who "I am. I own, that among Strangers "and the People of *Rome*, I find some "whose Minds are more inclinable to "me, than the present Government; "nor does it belong to me to reform "it; But however, I will at least take "care, that my Domesticks be not ta-"ken away from me, and my Palace "Rifled before my Face, as I have been "threatned, and know not how soon it "may be executed. Monsieur *Albani* concluded, that the Pope could not retract what he had done; but if her Majesty would permit the formalities of Justice to be done, it were not difficult to find such a Temper, that no body might receive any harm, and that the culpable being condemn'd by Justice,

might be Pardon'd again, becauſe the Pope's Authority would ſuffer damage, if he acted otherwiſe. " And my Ho. " nour (ſaid the Queen) would be wound- " ded if I ſhould act in any other man- " ner; and if I were to begin again, " the Pope ſhould not have ſo free Ac- " knowledgments and Condeſcentions, " ſeeing I have made my ſelf Enemies to " pleaſe him; But now Crown'd Heads " are well agreed, it is in his power to " give me a Diſturbance. But (ſaid ſhe " to conclude) things are not yet paſt " remedy, for my own part, if an Ex- " pedient can be found to ſave my Re- " putation, I will give him both my " hands to what he pleaſes.

Nevertheleſs, things continued in this poſture till the coming of the Marquiſs *Lavardin*, Ambaſſador of *France*, with whom ſhe found it convenient to unite her Intereſts, becauſe he was the Miniſter of a Potent Prince, who was ill ſatisfied in the Court of *Rome*. She ſaid a thouſand good things by way of Advance, and ſpoke of him always in the moſt Obliging terms. As for Inſtance, That the King of *France* could not have made a better choice, than to have employ'd a Perſon of ſo much Underſtanding

ing as himself. That being most intelligent in the business of Ambassages, he would cause the respect due to his Character to be easily paid him, and other things of the like nature. Her main end was to join her self to him, to obtain Satisfaction of the Pope, supposing she could not make her own Accomodation apart; For notwithstanding these apparent Unions, they would easily separate and forsake one another, to better their own Affairs. But the Pope, who did not like this Ambassage, and would never acknowledge him, made *Lavardin* (seeing himself forsaken by all) very glad to unite with the Queen, who was also in the same Circumstances.

The day that this Ambassador made his Entry into *Rome*, the Queen under most rigorous Penalties, forbad all her Officers and Domesticks to see it. But I who knew by her Eyes, that she made this Prohibition contrary to her Inclinations, asked leave by the Marquis *Caponi*, as being a *Frenchman*, to go and see this Entry: She granted it in the Presence of the Marquis *Del Monte*, with this condition, that I should observe very well all that pass'd, and give her an Account as soon as it was done. After

ter I had ſeen all, I came to give a relation of the Particulars as well as I could; and remaining alone with her Majeſty, ſhe ſaid to me, " Look you, " this is a matter of Conſequence, act " with all the addreſs you can, and do " not fail to get Acquaintance with " ſome Favourite *Valet de Chambre*, " to diſcover as much as 'tis poſſible, " what paſſes at the Marquiſs *de Lavar-* " *din's*.

At the beginning every one manag'd the matter ſo as to ſerve themſelves with moſt advantage in the Court of *Rome*. The Ambaſſador and the Cardinal *D' Eſtrees*, did not fail to manage all their Intrigues either to bend or terrifie the Pope. At laſt the Miniſters of his Holineſs having renvers'd all the Projects of the *French*, and the Pope having refus'd to receive a Letter written with the King's own hand, brought Expreſs by Monſieur *Chanelay*, Gentleman in ordinary of his Chamber. Things broke without return, and made the Ambaſſador reſolve at laſt, to unite with the Queen. They who deſire a thing, do eaſily believe it, or ſeem ſo to do. Two or three days were ſcarce paſt, but there run a Report, that the Courts

of

of *France* and *Rom* were just upon agreeing; and at the same time arriv'd a Courier from *France*, as 'twas said, about the Vacancy of Benefices, but no Body knew what the Letters imported. The Queen being in suspence, and not knowing what to believe, desir'd me to bring her the Courier, whom I was Acquainted with. I pretended to shew him all the Rarities of the Queen's Apartment. He came, and I conducted him through all Places, till we came to the Chamber of *Mirroir*, where the Queen Surpriz'd us, at it were by chance; She question'd the Courier very much, but being one of the Cabinet, and a Man of Wit, she could only draw from him some general things.

In the mean time, she never left to speak a thousand good things of the Ambassador, and the Ambassador of the Queen, and I found out an Invention to bring them a little nearer one to another. I told her Majesty, that Madam the Ambassadress had brought the finest Habits in the World along with her: And she let me know that she was very desirous to have a sight of them. I made the Ambassadress acquainted with it, and she fail'd not to send them to the Queen, and

and ſhe ſaid, ſhe was much pleas'd with them, but ſhould have been better to ſee them upon the Perſon for whom they were made. Madam *de Laverdin* underſtood this, and was mightily pleas'd with the Eſteem the Queen had for her. For the poor Lady, in the Miſ-intelligence between the Court of *Rome* and her Husband, ſaw no body which gave her the Title of Excellence, out of her own Palace, nor treated her as Ambaſſadreſs, and therefore died with longing to ſee her ſelf Honour'd with theſe Titles by ſo great a Queen. I Din'd at the Ambaſſadors ſome time after, and by way of Entertainment, it was ask'd me how her Majeſty would treat Monſieur the Ambaſſador if he ſhould do her the Honour of a Viſit. I anſwer'd that I knew not the Queen's Secrets, but yet I durſt promiſe, that her Majeſty would treat him according to his Character. The ſame Night I ſaw the Queen, and ſaid, Madam, dare I enquire of your Majeſty, how you will treat Monſieur *de Laverdin*, if he gives you the Honour of rendring his Devoirs. " I would " treat him (ſaid ſhe) as all other Am- " baſſadors of *France*; or in ſhort, how " he pleaſes. She let him know it alſo

by

by other means; and the ſame Night I went to tell the Ambaſſador's Confident what the Queen had ſaid: And after ſome few days, a *Valet de Chambre* of Monſieur the Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*, call'd *Conſtant*, met me going over the Bridge of *Ponte Siſta*, and told me, that the next day Monſieur the Ambaſſador of *France* would come to Viſit her Majeſty. I flew preſently to tell her, and as ſoon as ſhe ſaw me, ask'd me: *Well, what News? Madam*, (ſaid I, ſpeaking very low to her) *Monſieur the Ambaſſador will come to Morrow to Viſit you.* She was much ſurpriz'd at theſe words, and ſaid, *Ah* N— *the Affection you have for me, makes you deſire theſe things. No, Madam*, (anſwer'd I) *there's nothing ſo true, I have ſeen the Preparations, and was told it by a Friend. My Child*, (ſaid ſhe) *I have no News of all this, and I believe the Orders of the Court are changed; but ſay nothing, to Morrow we ſhall know all.* I could not Sleep all that Night, and the next Day went to the Queens Levee, and ſhe caſt ſo many Glances at me, that I was quite put out of Countenance; but ſhe was ſcarce cloath'd before *Monſieur de la Bruſſiere* Maſter of *Monſieur de Lavardin*'s Cham-

ber,

ber, came to tell Her Majeſty, that Monſieur the Ambaſſador deſir'd the Honour of paying his Reſpects to her, and doing his Devoirs.

One may eaſily believe that the Queen gave a good Anſwer to this agreeable Meſſage, ſaying that Monſieur the Ambaſſadour was perfectly Maſter to come when he pleas'd, and that he ſhould be receiv'd, according both to his Character and his Merit. The Viſit was great and magnificent, and they ſpoke an hundred obliging things, and full of eſteem one for another, and in the praiſe of that great Monarch Monſieur *Lavardin* repreſented. This Viſit entertain'd all the City with Diſcourſe for ſome time, and all the Queens Courtiers became good *French* Men. Madam the Ambaſſadreſs came alſo to ſee the Queen, and was well receiv'd; and after this, there was nothing ſo frequent as the Coaches of the Ambaſſador and his Lady in the Queens Court.

I had forgot one Circumſtance, which is, that while this Enterview was treating, Her Majeſty went one Day to the Colledge of St. *Clement*, to hear ſome Academical Diſcourſes, in Proſe and Verſe, with a recitation in Muſick, and

it

it was at the time of the Carneval, *Anno* 1688. when all Rejoycings were forbidden by the Pope's Authority. I told the Confident of Monſieur the Ambaſſador, that the Queen in returning home, would paſs by the Palace *Farneſe*; which Monſieur *de Lavardin* underſtanding, aſſembled all his Guards Marine, together with his whole Houſehold, and made a double Hedge, in the middle of which the Queen paſs'd with all her Train, with Flambeaus lighted. Monſieur the Ambaſſador, Madam the Ambaſſadreſs, Madamoſel their Daughter, and a little Child a Daughter of theirs, were upon the Balcony, where they made a profound Reverence to the Queen; ſhe re-ſaluted them with her Hand, and all the Nobles with their Hats off accompanied Her Majeſty as far as *Ponte-Siſto*.

In ſhort, the whole Carriage of the Thing was Agreeable and Magnificent on both ſides; for the Queen had one of the fineſt Coaches in *Rome*, and a Chair of the ſame, all her Footmen and twelve Anſpeſſades at the back of them, and all illuminated by twenty ſix Flambeaus in White Wax.

It was again inquir'd, how Madamoſel *Lavardin* ſhould be treated if ſhe came to kiſs Her Majeſties Hands. The Queen ask'd me from whom I brought that Queſtion, and whether Monſieur the Ambaſſador made this Demand? *No, Madam*, (I anſwer'd) *it is a Damſel that waits upon Madamoſel* Lavardin. *They are not very knowing in the Ceremonial Law*, (ſaid the Queen;) *If Madamoſel* Lavardin *comes to ſee me, I muſt ſtand upon Niceties; but becauſe we will not come to that, I will go abroad for her ſake, and we will meet one another in a Church or Religious Monaſtery, and I will carry her to ſee the fineſt Convents in* Rome, *that I will treat her with all Civility, and make her ſit in my Preſence next my ſelf.* This was done, and the Young Lady was entirely ſatisfied in Her Majeſties Goodneſs.

One Day the Queen would have me to watch when the Ambaſſadour paſs'd by *Longara*, to go to the fine Garden of Cardinal *Barberini*, which is near the Gate *de Spirito Santo*. After I knew, I gave notice to Cardinal *Azzolini* on Her Majeſties part, who was to come to meet him as it were by Chance, and they met one another over-againſt the Monaſtery

Monaſtery call'd *Regina Celi*, where there paſs'd a great many Civilities between them, and the Cardinal treated the Marquiſs *de Lavardin* with the Title of Excellence and Ambaſſadour, in the Preſence of a great number of People who waited on purpoſe to ſee how they would Salute one another. I caus'd the Ambaſſador's Trumpets to come afterwards into the Queens Garden, where they Play'd moſt excellently, and were gratified with ten Piſtols from the Queen, and Monſieur the Ambaſſador extoll'd this Liberality to the Skies.

The Queen being deſirous to compoſe the Difference that was between the Cardinals *Azzolini* and *D'Eſtrees*, could not bring it about, and was ſo angry at it, that to be reveng'd ſhe ſtraitway remonſtrated to the Ambaſſador, That the hot Councils of Cardinal *D'Eſtrees* had exaſperated Matters, and would cauſe him to make falſe ſteps; that ſuch a Man as he had no need either of Counſeller or Pedant, and that the Pope was irritated againſt him for Cardinal *D'Eſtree*'s ſake; that *Azzolini* was certainly a good Servant of the King's; and though decried in the Court of *France*, had always maintain'd a great

Reſpect

Reſpect for the King; and that if his Excellence would confide in him, he would manage things to his Satisfaction.

Monſieur *de Lavardin* gave Ear to it, and look'd coldly upon Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*; but this incomparable Cardinal, who had faithful Spies over the Queen, was immediately inform'd of all, and ſo with his winning Manners prevented the Ambaſſador, and ſaid to him; "Monſieur, the Queen of *Sweden* is "ſo Inconſtant, and Cardinal *Azzolini* "ſo great a Deceiver, that if the Pope "do but make the leaſt ſhew of giving "them ſome ſlight ſatisfaction, you "will find the Queen turn her Back of "you. I know, Monſieur, ſhe has told "you, that you may lay aſide my "Counſels, and that you have no need "of a Pedant: But ſince the King has "done me the Honour to communicate "his Affairs to me as, well as your ſelf, "I will always ſpeak my Thoughts, "where the Intereſts of his Eſtates are "tranſacted. But Monſieur *Lavardin*, who was of Opinion, that the Court of *Rome*, was not very fond of the Queen of *Sweden*, was well ſatisfied with this Remonſtrance; but the Queen

Queen gave *D'Eſtrees* to the Devil, knowing he had been inform'd of all, and was never able to diſcover him that betray'd her. What happen'd after the Diſcovery of all theſe Intrigues? The Pope was always obſtinate, and would hear no Body. The Queen died the 13th of *April*, 1689. The Marquiſs *de Lavardin* parted from *Rome* into *France* from whence he came, without ſeeing the Pope, who died the 12th of *Auguſt* in the ſame Year: And as to Cardinal *Azzolini*, he died on the 9th of *June*, going before that of the Pope.

This Relation, though a little long, informs us in many curious Circumſtances, and ſhews the inconſtant Genius of the Queen. For after all, who would have believed a little before, that ſhe would have made ſo ſtrict an Union with the *French* Ambaſſador, after ſhe had ſpoken ſo much ill of this Crown, and concerning which, ſhe pretended to be diſſatisfied. Witneſs what eſcap'd from her as ſhe was talking to the Envoy of *England*, who was at *Rome* a little after *James* II. came to the Crown of thoſe Realms.

She

She receiv'd his Picture from the ſame Lord, and made him as magnificent a Reception, as if he had been declar'd Ambaſſador, though he never had that Character; for it was Conferr'd upon the Lord *Caſtlemain*. She Regal'd him one Night with fine Muſick and Verſe in the Praiſe of King *James*, a quantity of Liquors, and other Refreſhments, and holding his Picture in her Hand: "This is a great King, and "(ſaid ſhe) I hope I ſhall not die, till "I ſee the *Engliſh* again in *France*, as "they have been heretofore, to humble that Light and Ambitious Nation. "If the Pope would believe me, I "could ſhew him a way to penetrate "into the Bowels of *France*: The true "way to abate the Pride of the *French*, "(who would not acknowledge the "Holy See, except for Intereſt) is to "make a firm League with the King of "*England*.

To know the Original of that Averſion which the Queen and Cardinal had for Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*, we muſt go a ſtep higher; for it is certain that this Miſintelligence begun before the Ambaſſadors of the four Crowns were diſcontented with Cardinal *Altieri*, who govern'd

govern'd the Eccleſiaſtical State, as of Cardinal Patron, under the Pontificate of Pope *Clement* X. I ſay he govern'd the Eſtate, for the good Pope *Altieri* being come to decrepit Age, and fal'n into meer Childhood again, had no part in it: Which made *Paſquin* ſay, when *Marforius* demanded under whoſe Pontificate they liv'd? *Sumus ſub Pontificatu Altierius.* We are under the Pontificate of another, (anſwer'd he) alluding to the Pope's Name, and the ſmall ſhare he had in the Government.

Another time *Paſquin* ſaid no leſs ingeniouſly upon this Subject, that *Clement* X did only *Benedicere & Sanctificare*, whereas Cardinal *Altieri* did for his part *Regere & gubernare.*

The Pope was Elected 22th of *April*, 1670. in ſpite of the Queen and Cardinal *Azzolini*'s Mind, who had an hundred Juggles and Contrivances, to make Cardinal *Vidoni* Pope; this Princeſs hoping that under his Pontificate ſhe ſhould have the ſame Reſpects and Conveniences that ſhe had under *Clement* IX. But Fortune was not ſo favourable to *Vidoni*, as *Paſquin* alſo had foretold: For during the Conclave, there was found a Writing fix'd upon the Gate of the Pon-

Pontifical Palace at *Monte Cavallo*, where was written,

Qui non intrano, ne Facchini, ne Guidoni.

Alluding to the Names of the Cardinals *Facchenetti*, and *Guidoni*, or *Vidoni*; the laſt of which ſignifies a Beggar, or a Rogue, and the other a Porter.

Azzolini who hoped to be Secretary of State under *Vidoni*, as he was under *Clement* IX. was ſatisfied no more than the Queen, ſo that when Her Majeſty receiv'd the News of his Elevation, ſhe would not believe it, and treated all them that brought it as Beaſts, ſaying, they did not underſtand themſelves.

In the mean time Count *Alibert* entred, and told her with his affected Air, *Madam, the Cardinal* Altieri *is Pope: Oh bene beſtia* (ſaid ſhe) *non occorro altro, s'attacchi la Carrozzo.* She went out with all her Houſe by the Garden Gate, which opens towards the Gate of St. *Pancras*, to avoid the Crowd, and entred into the Bourg of St. *Peter*, by the Gate of the Light-horſe, from whence ſhe went directly to the Vatican; but ſhe had no heart to receive him at the bottom of the Stairs, ſhe was only in the Hall,

Hall, where ſome Prelates were come before her. After her Compliment made to the new Pope, which was very brief, ſhe went back as ſhe came, but ſo melancholy, that we eaſily knew ſhe was not content, *Azzolini* having miſs'd his Blow, quickly found means to adjuſt his Affairs to the new Regent.

At this time the Houſe of the *D'Eſtrees* pretending to an Hat for the Biſhop and Duke of *Laon* at the Solicitation of *Portugal*, entred into Cabals with one another; but the Queen being of a reſtleſs Spirit, and always an Enemy to *France*, becauſe they would not yield to her Sentiments, would with *Azzolini* croſs as much as they could the promotion of the *D'Eſtrees*; and this illuſtrious Prelate waited a long time, becauſe he would be a Cardinal by his own Merit, and not put on his Hat at a price, as was hop'd for by the devouring Avarice of the Regent. From hence began at firſt the Antipathy for the *D'Eſtrees*, which augmented afterwards by divers Accidents.

After the Death of *Clement* X. the Queen out of Policy writ a Letter to the Moſt Chriſtian King, by which ſhe offer'd to joyn *Azzolini* to the Faction of

France, for the Election of a Pope; but they made so little account of it, that they never return'd her an Answer, till two Days after the Election of *Innocent* XI. the Queen took it with all the spight that could be thought of, and had the Injustice to believe that Cardinal *D'Estrees* was the Cause of this Contempt. She was angry besides that they did not give her timely notice of the Queen of *France*'s Death, and for that reason would not wear Mourning; but afterwards changing her Opinion, in favour of so Pious and Holy a Queen, she habited her self in a stuff of Goats Hair of a Violet Colour, which is made no where but at *Naples*, aud is very dear, and the Thing of the World, which is the deepest Mourning.

But that which most augmented the Queens Rage and her Marquisan, for so she her self used to call *Azzolini*, because he was of the *Marca de Anchona*, was the Affair of *Molinos*. He was a Secular *Spanish* Priest, and undertook the direction of Consciences for twenty Years in *Rome*, and under this Pretext brought in a new Heresie without making a noise, which was so much the more pernicious in that, under a shew of Ele-

Elevating the Mind, to a more ſublime Contemplation, he would not have us ſtop at the Humanity of the Word Incarnate ſaying, that we ought always to conſider it in the Boſom of the Eternal Father. This made ſome to believe him to be a conceal'd Jew, of which there was a great deal of likelihood. In effect all his Diſcourſes tended to deſtroy as much as poſſibly he could the Ineffable Myſteries of the Holy Trinity, and the Incarnation of the Son of God. He was againſt all Images, and renew'd all the Dreams of the Ancient Iconoclaſticks, condemn'd by ſo many Orthodox Councils. His Manners were as corrupt as his Faith, and he would abuſe the fineſt Women and Maids to whom he had acceſs, by perſwading them that Whoredom was no Sin, when it was not Scandalous. According to him, Confeſſion was no way neceſſary, and that Prayer of Quietude aboliſh'd all ſorts of Sin; ſo the Tribunal of Penitence, was no more frequented, and the moſt Devout to outward appearance, whom he had ſeduced, approach'd the Holy Table, as ſoon as ever they came to Church, without putting themſelves to the trouble of an Abſolution;

this abominable Rogue, all the while rejoycing at the horrible Sacriledges he committed.

But there is no need I ſhould enlarge my ſelf any further in things which are known to all the World, nor upon the Important Service Cardinal *D'Eſtrees* render'd the Church, in advertiſing the Holy Office of this Infamous Heretick, who had infatuated all the principal Perſonages in *Rome*, as far as the Queen of *Sweden*, nay even as far as Pope *Innocent* XI. who believed him a Saint, and would have made him a Cardinal in a few Days. The Method Cardinal *D'Eſtrees* took to Arreſt *Molinos*, was a piece of conſummate Prudence, and any other Perſon but himſelf, who ſhould have declar'd it, would have ſuffer'd him to eſcape. It was upon a *Thurſday* that the Congregation of the Holy Office was held before the Pope, where after they had expedited the Affairs which lay upon the Table, Monſieur the Cardinal *D'Eſtrees* demanded and obtain'd Audience of the Pope, and the Sacred Colledge, about a thing of the greateſt importance; and every one being ſilent, ſaid, That one of the moſt pernicious of Hereſies was form'd in *Rome*, and if

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a prompt Remedy were not applyed, there was an end of all Religion. But that he who was the Author, had ſo great Credit even in the Sacred Colledge, (meaning *Azzolini* without naming him) that he would eſcape as ſoon as the Congregation was ended, if ſufficient precautions were not taken thereupon. And therefore he requir'd the Pope's Order to ſeize the Perſon he would name, and bring him to the Priſons of the Holy Office, before the Aſſembly ſhould ſeparate.

This being agreed to, Monſieur the Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*, named *Molinos*, as the moſt deteſtable of Hereticks, ſummoning the Pope to keep his Word, and cauſe him to be Arreſted, and immediately to conduct him to the Priſons of the Holy Office. The Pope had a mind to take his part, and to juſtifie his Innocence before hand: But the Cardinal proteſted, that if he intended to act for the Glory of God, he ought not to looſe one Moment; and when they were aſſur'd of his Perſon, he might give him time enough to juſtifie himſelf.

Upon these Remonstrances the Pope sent for a *Bariseel*, and commanded him to go with all his *Sbirries*, and Arrest Doctor *Molinos*, who liv'd near St. *Laurence* in *Panisperna*, and to bring him immediately into the Prisons of the Holy Office, telling him, That he lost his own Head if he miss'd his Blow.

In the mean time the Cardinal *D'Estrees* kept *Azzolini* always in his Eye, for fear he should go away, and give notice to *Molinos*, and retain'd the Cardinals lock'd up with the Pope, till two of the Clock, after Dinner, notwithstanding the great Heat of Summer, till the *Bariseel* had brought a Scrowl of his Imprisonment, who after three Months Juridical Proceedings, made a Publick Recantation of Errors, at the *Minerva*. He Detested, Abjur'd, Anathematiz'd them, and after he had receiv'd Absolution, he had the Pennance inflicted on him, of being confin'd all his Life, in the Prisons of the Holy Office.

This wicked Person had the address to insinuate himself into the most considerable Persons in *Rome*, among whom he spread his Venom more or less, according as he found the Subjects disposed.

ſed. He had ſeduc'd and infected almoſt all the City of *Rome*, where they look'd upon him as a Saint, even as far as the Queen her ſelf, who gave him Audience for three Hours every *Monday*. 'Tis certain that the Queens Houſe receiv'd a great deal of eaſe by his means, in that he moderated her violent Tranſports, which would become ſometimes ſo exceſſive, that no Body durſt come near her. She treated her Houſe in ſo rude a manner, and committed ſuch inſupportable Extravagancies, that if they did not forſake her, pure Neceſſity was the reaſon. For the greateſt number of Servants, ſerve their Maſters out of Intereſt, and not Duty or Conſcience; and if they honour them by one Motive, contemn them by another. Count *Alibert* who ſtudied to know her ſo well, had his Hands full, for ſometimes when he would come to her after his Flattering and Complaiſant way, thinking to find her in an happy Hour, it was then oftentimes ſhe was moſt untoward.

I remember one Day he came to the Queen with a pleaſant Air, and told her, *Madam, your Majeſty may be pleaſed to underſtand that this Morning Cardi-*

nal D'Eſtrees *has been ill ſatisfied with the Pope, and that the Affairs of* France *are more embroil'd than ever :* And afterwards made a very troubleſome Narration of all that he had heard or invented, as 'twas ordinary with him. But he had not always the good luck to ſucceed, and particularly at that time; for the Queen who had no more reaſon than others to be ſatisfied, treated him with Sot and Beaſt, that would make her believe any thing; that he ſtudied nothing but Lies to amuſe her, and that ſhe would cauſe him to be thrown out of the Windows: And ſo the poor Eternal Flatterer finding himſelf thus terribly repuls'd, came out with Tears in his Eyes.

But to return to *Molinos:* Never Woman appear'd more tranſported than the Queen at the taking of this Impoſtor; ſhe ſpoke all that Choler could inſpire with Infernal Fury, and among other things, that ſhe wonder'd that ſo Learned and Judicious a Congregation as that of the Holy Office, in which the Pope preſided, ſhould ſuffer themſelves to be led by the Sophiſtical Diſcourſe of Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*, whom ſhe call'd Rattle-Head twenty times. I ſhall ſay no-

not ing of the Applications made Pope to save *Molinos*, to which he had but too much inclination; but that which is of most concern is, that this Impostor should give her a Confessor to cheat her, (a *Calabrian* by Nation) and made her dismiss a Reverend Capuchin Father, a Man of an Holy Life, and a better Director than himself, under pretence that he was not learned enough, because he would innovate nothing in Religion.

As long as the Process of *Molinos* lasted, she sent to him Fruits and Comfitures, and obstinately continued so to do for two or three Months after his Condemnation, against the Advice of *Azzolini* himself.

Cardinal *D'Estrées* only laugh'd at these Transports, and upon all occasions serv'd this Princess afterward with the best Grace in the World: But there was always a Coldness between the Cardinal and *Azzolini*, and yet they saw one another in Chappels, Consistories, Congregations, and other Functions of the Court of *Rome*, where they could not avoid speaking without Scandal, but they were very reserv'd, and had no Confidence one in another. The Queen

would have had them have gone to it briskly, but they were too wise to make a Noise, which made the Queen say aloud one day, when she saw *Azzolini* discoursing with *D'Estrees*, in the Presence of many other Cardinals, at the Theatre of the *Tour de None*. *Politica delli miei coglioni mar chiginacccio.*

It is time to finish this History by the Death of Queen *Christina*, but it is so interwoven with the Adventures of *Georgina*, or *Signora Angelica*, that we cannot describe the one without making mention of the other. For though this Charming Virgin was the innocent cause of her Death, it had been better she had never entred into the Queen's Service, for this Princess perhaps might have been yet Alive, had she not died of spite that she could not revenge her self of an Outrage done in her Family, to *Signora Angelica*. It must be acknowledg'd that Beauty is a dangerous thing in a young Virgin, but above all when she has other Talents, which inflame no less, seeing the Palace of a great Queen was not able to protect her from the Ambushes laid for this fair Singer, by which she became a Prey to a Wretch, after

after ſhe had triumph'd over the Purſuit of the greateſt Lords in *Rome*.

Angelica was a Virgin, incomparable both for Beauty and Wit; her Stature was ſomething above the ordinary ſize, well taken and ſlender; her Viſage a perfect Oval, her Eyes Sparkling, her Hair of a bright Flaxen colour, but inclining to White, an Aquiline Noſe, white Teeth, vermilion Lips, and her Neck excellently Shap'd; Her Wit was full and exact, her Conception eaſie, of a complaiſant Humour, and ſuch an agreement in her whole Perſon as made her Beloved by great and ſmall, for it may be ſaid, that from the Scepter to the Spade, all Eſtates and Conditions of Men have done Homage to her Merit. In fine to make a juſt Portraiture of her, one muſt take a Muſe for a Model, for to all her Perfections, ſhe would ſing ſo rarely, that it would Raviſh all that heard her, and touch'd Inſtruments to a Miracle. Her putative Father was Comptroller of the Mount of *Piety*, and becauſe he was call'd *Georgino*, ſhe acquir'd the Name of *Georgina*. Her Mother who was very Intriguing, ſome time before her Marriage, had a Knight of the Order of *Melchiſadech*. And ill

Tongues

Tongues, who are never idle, would let themſelves looſe againſt this excellent Virgin, as if ſhe had a fault in her Birth, and that the Religious would have her, becauſe Eccleſiaſticks have there ſometimes a Commerce of Gallantry, as if they were not like other Men. Love is the moſt Violent of all the Paſſions, and there are none but are ſenſible of its Effects. A peaceable and ſedentary Life, is more ſuſceptible of it than any other, and to ſum up the Account, a Man with a long Gown, both in *Italy* and *Spain*, though he be oblig'd to live in Gælibate, does not looſe his Reputation among Men, becauſe he has had an Amorous Intrigue. I know, that before God it is a Sin without Excuſe: But however it be, when the Fact is done, the Laws oblige Prieſts who have Children, to breed them up well, and to furniſh Neceſſaries for their Subſiſtence and Education.

Monſieur *Zachary* perform'd this to exceſs, in favour of *Georgina*; For never any Father took greater care in the Breeding and Inſtruction of a Child, than he of her, without ſparing of Expences; ſo well did he love her, and with reaſon, for as much a Child as ſhe was, ſhe

ſhe had ſo many Agreements, that ſhe Charmed the moſt Inſenſible. As ſhe had Naturally a moſt admirable Voice, and an inclination to Muſick, he gave her the beſt Maſters in *Rome*, to teach her to Sing, and touch all ſorts of Inſtruments, which ſhe learn'd ſo eaſily, that ſhe ſurpaſſed all her Maſters without taking pains; and to this day ſhe has not any equal at the *Lute*, *Theorboe*, *Harpſicord*, or *Virginals*. She had beſides the fineſt Voice in *Italy*. For though there be excellent Muſicians at *Rome*, who are moſt of them Caſtrated to preſerve their Voices, there was found in hers a certain Harmony with ſuch force and ſweetneſs, as there was nothing like it. Theſe rare Qualities made her ſought after by the greateſt Princes in *Europe*, and it was Force only that withheld her from going to the Emperor's Court, or that of *France*, where ſhe was much deſired. But thoſe who gave Life to her, could never reſolve to looſe her out of Sight, through the Affection they bore her, judging beſides that ſhe would not fail to make her Fortune in her own Country by her Merit, without expoſing her to the danger of Travel. *Signora Caterina*, her Mother, who

who had other Children to provide for, was very fond of *Angelica*'s Merit, who had a great mind to Travel, and above all, into *France*, Becauſe the Modes and Gallantries of that Court, run ſtrongly in her Mind; but not being Miſtreſs of her own Will, ſhe had no other part to take, but that of Obedience. Her Beauty and her Talents encreas'd with her Age, and at the ſame time, the number of her Admirers augmented every day. The firſt who enterpriz'd the Conqueſt of her Heart, were young Men of a ſuitable Condition to her own. For ſhe always paſs'd for the Daughter of a little Commiſſioner of the *Mount of Piety*, of a very indifferent Fortune, but yet one who was a civil Perſon, and maintain'd his Family Honeſtly upon the Revenue of his Employ, and ſome Aſſiſtances which *Monſeigneur Zachary* furniſh'd them with Privately upon the account of *Angelica*. *Georgino* had not Married the Mother of *Angelica*, but in view of a better Dowry than ſhe would have had without her Gallantries with the Prelate, and in hope of being aſſiſted for their Care in the Education of his Daughter. And that as he was none of thoſe Commodious Huſ-

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bands which ſuffer their Wives to live in Diſorder, provided it bring Water to the Mill; ſo on the other hand, he was not ſo ſcrupulous about the Gallantries his Wife had done before Marriage. He liv'd very Privately, according to the Cuſtom and Genius of the *Italians*, keeping almoſt no Company, and therefore liv'd in a Quarter that was diſtant from Noiſe, and Great People, in which alſo good Husbandry might have a ſhare, as well as the love of Eaſe. For in the Quarter of *Traſtevera*, Houſes are very Cheap, though Spacious enough, and he had there the convenience of a Fountain and a Garden, being near the Monaſtery of St. *Cecilia*, over againſt the Working-Shop of the *French Accademy*. Every body knows, that the *French* King maintains an Academy in *Rome*, for Twelve *French* Youths, who there learn fine Arts, with intention to become capable of the better Service of their Country, when they come home. This *Academy* is compos'd of ſix Painters, four Gravers, and two Architects, whoſe Buſineſs it is to Copy and imitate the fineſt Paintings and Sculptures in *Rome*, and to Meaſure the fineſt Palaces and other Edifices, both Ancient and Modern.

Modern. Monſieur *Errard*, Director of the Accademy, liv'd with his Pupils, in the old Palace, near St. *Andre de la Valle*; but becauſe he had not room enough for Marble and other Materials for Sculpture; he had a Working-Shop, as I ſaid before in *Traſtevera*, near St. *Cecilia*, where the Gravers of the Accademy Wrought, and Din'd every day for their greater Convenience. A young *French* Graver called *Theodon*, who was already very skilful in his Art, and beſides a well Shap'd Perſon, having upon occaſion ſeen *Angelica* at a Window, and and as ſhe went to Church, became Charm'd with her Merit, and endeavour'd to make her underſtand it by Signs. His Perſeverance touch'd her at laſt, and ſhe permitted him to ſee her ſometimes, which pleas'd him extreamly; but he was ſo often croſs'd by other Pretenders, that it gave him mortal Alarms, fearing one or other of them would raviſh away his Miſtreſs's Heart. The Fame of *Angelica* encreas'd daily, as well as her Voice and Beauty. Her Mother often brought her among the Religious and Ladies of the firſt Quality, where ſhe Charm'd them all by her Singing, and her addreſs in touching

ing of Inſtruments. This encreas'd the multitude of her Lovers, among which were many Perſons of high Birth; this oblig'd her Mother to keep her ſhut up cloſer than uſual, and to watch her Conduct more narrowly. This proceeding did nothing but augment the crowd of her Adorers, and their Quarter was more frequented than ever, to have the pleaſure of ſeeing her at her Window, which ſhe kept open more than ordinary, to croſs the Jealouſie of her Mother, and above all, in Carnival time, where the fineſt Maſquerades would forſake their Courſe to come and walk up and down about her Houſe. Her Mother being Cunning and Intriguing, made a great advantage of the Preſents made her, in giving ſome hopes to all People, without engaging her ſelf too much, and obtain'd what Favours ſhe pleas'd from the Great ones, who Sigh'd and Languiſh'd for her Daughter. Prince *Columbiere* propos'd to Marry her to one of his Gentlemen, to get her into his Houſe. But her Mother diſcovering the Intrigue, would hear of it by no means, and beſides, expected a more conſiderable Match for her Daughter *Angelica*, whoſe proper Merit, was her Misfortune,

tune, desir'd to match with one of an equal Condition with her self, out of fear that if she Married above her self, her Husband should come to Despise her, if a fit of Sickness, or any other Accident, should cause her to loose her Beauty, or her Voice. Among all that sought after her, none pleas'd her so well as *Theodon* the Graver. He was a well shap'd Person, and they had a Sympany in their Humours. He excell'd in his Art, and did the Office of Director of the Accademy, instead of Monsieur *Errard*, whose decrepid Age, had made him unfit for Business. *Catherine*, who was more ambitious than her Daughter, would hear nothing of it; and in the mean time making advantage of the Gifts, which the greatest Lords in *Rome* Presented her, to obtain the promise of hearing *Angelica* Sing, though they did not end their Pretensions there. But she not seeming to penetrate their Thoughts, and agreeing to their Demands, was contented to keep her Daughter in her Sight, fearing otherwise there might happen some Accident which might loose her Reputation and ruine her Fortune. *Angelica*, who did not like this Management, and could not find

find poor *Theodon* in all the Crowd, became ſo Melancholy that ſhe fell Sick, and was in danger of Death. Her Parents were much Alarmed, and the Prelate told her Mother, that if ſhe did not drive away this Multitude that Beſieg'd his Daughter, he would take her out of her Hands, and put her into a Convent. As he was a ſevere Man and had Authority, they muſt obey him, and ſo they ſent her into the Country, where the Air quickly re-eſtabliſh'd her Health.

Being return'd to *Rome*, ſome time afterwards, ſhe was inviſible to all the World, except *Theodon*, who ſaw her at a Window, and ſpoke to her by Signs: *Signora Caterina* ſent *Angelica* to the firſt Maſs upon Sundays and Holydays, and made her keep within all the reſt of the Day.

But this conſtraint being very uneaſie to *Theodon*, he ſpoke to a Friend of his who was the Father of Inventions, and he promis'd him to find out ſome way or other, to have a ſight of his Beloved. He ſearch'd round about the Houſe, and found a ſmall Houſe juſt by it, which had a Court yard well ſtor'd with Fowls; he got acquainted with the good Woman that kept them, and under the pretence

tence of buying of Eggs, and a Preſent, obtain'd Permiſſion to come into the Court-yard every Night with his Friend *Theodon*, becauſe a back Window of *Angelica*'s Chamber look'd into it.

They advertis'd the Fair one of this Diſcovery, and ſhe promis'd at a certain Signal to appear at that Window; but ſhe was ſo high they could not hear her, unleſs ſhe ſpoke aloud, which ſhe durſt not do, for fear of a Diſcovery: Then they tied *Billets deux* to the end of a Packthread, and ſhe drew them up, and ſome time after ſent back an Anſwer the ſame way. Her Billets were ſo Spiritual and Tender, that one might ſee, that her Heart and Love dictated them; but beſides theſe, ſhe had ſomething in ſtore for the happy *Theodon*, that was more Charming.

Whereas in *Rome* other Lovers Serenade their Miſtreſſes at their Windows in the Night, and endeavour to expreſs their Torments in tender and paſſionate Airs; here on the contrary, this Charming Virgin would Sing to her Harpſical, pieces of an Opera, which agreed ſo well to the Subject of Love, that one would think they were made on purpoſe. You may believe that *Theodon*

don and his Friend did not fail to be at the Rendezvouſe, where they always found new Pleaſures, and they carried alſo little Collations, and ſerved her always with the beſt things, which they put into a little Basket, and the Lovely Priſoner drew it to her ſelf, and ſo participated of the Feaſt, telling them that ſhe eat theſe Fruits and other Trifles with more appetite than a Hawker, or thoſe Solider Viands her Mother was ſo often Regal'd with ; for ſhe could not hinder her ſelf from receiving part of that which the moſt illuſtrious of her Purſuers, would privately bring into their Houſe.

There was two among the reſt who were very conſiderable, both in their Quality being Princes, and by their Liberality. *Catherine* manag'd them both, and aſſigned them different Hours, for fear they ſhould meet one another ; but but this Precaution was all to no purpoſe, for their Griſons diſcover'd them, and they were much amaz'd to meet one another in the ſame Chace, for they were both Comrades, and Allies.

Things being ſo, they were forc'd to accommodate themſelves to the Seaſon, and each endeavour'd to prefer himſelf

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to his Miſtreſſes Favour, living as yet in a good Underſtanding with one another ; but the Coldneſs and Indifference of *Angelica* towards them, made each of them believe his Comrade happy to his prejudice. They fell out upon this Imagination, and would have made a noiſe, if they had not been hindred. For one who was call'd the Abbot of St. *Marc*, was Violent, Imperious, and of an high Hand ; but the other, who is at preſent Lord *de la Mouche Erithree*, was more Tractable. *Angelica* hated them equally, and being a Perſon no way ſuitable to either of them, ſigh'd only for her dear *Theodon*.

The frequent Importunities of theſe two great Lords, forc'd *Angelica* to have recourſe to her Father, (for ſo they call'd Monſeigneur *Zachary*) exaggerating the Tyrannies of her Mother. This Prelate to encourage his Daughter, to enter into a Convent, gave her a Dowry of eight thouſand Crowns, which were put into the Bank of the Mount of Piety in a borrowed Name. *Angelica* not being able to do any better, diſpos'd her ſelf to enter into a Nunnery, comforting her ſelf with this, That ſhe ſhould however be near her Lover,

Lover, and that ſhe might ſee him in his Working-Shop, by the Balliſtrades of the Clock, which at the ſame time denotes her Innocence.

While theſe things were a doing, the Prelate dies, leaving this fine and deſolate Daughter to the Diſcretion of her Mother, who diſſuaded her from going into a Convent for the Intereſts of her Family, and the poor Daughter was forc'd to accommodate her ſelf to her Humour; ſhe muſt then take up again the Trade of Singing as before.

A Cardinal of the firſt Rank in the Sacred Colledge, and perhaps one of the handſomeſt, who had ſometime before made an Ambaſſadreſs of *France*, in Love with him, hearing ſo many fine Things ſpoken of *Angelica*, would ſee whether they were true: His Authority and Liberality found every where a free Acceſs; and he was Charm'd with the Voice and Manners of *Angelica*, but he went ſo often, that the noiſe came as far as the Ears of Pope *Innocent* XI. As he was a very ſevere and angry Pope, and would let no Body be at quiet, he took a reſolution to cauſe *Angelica* to be taken up and put into a Convent, as Scandalous, and of ill Reputation. So

true

true is it, that in his Time, the Innocent ſuffer'd as well as the Guilty; for her Mother was more to blame than ſhe, ſeeing ſhe receiv'd no viſit but out of Obedience.

At that time, the Duke of *Mantua* was at *Rome*, and they boaſted to him of *Angelica*, as one of the Singularities, or fineſt thing that was to be ſeen in *Rome*. The Marquiſs *Del Monte* brought her to his Highneſs, as we have ſaid before; and he found her ſo well to anſwer her Character, that he made her very conſiderable Offers to come to his Court. The great Liberalities he beſtow'd upon her Mother, engag'd her to promiſe a conſent to his Will; but *Angelica*, who ſaw no Security for her ſelf, when ſhe was in the hands of ſo puiſſant a Prince, was not able to reſolve what to do. She had notice given her quickly after, to have a care of her ſelf, becauſe the Pope was going to take her up and put her in a Convent, and this put her into a terrible Fright; for tho' ſhe had no repugnance to enter into Religion, ſhe could not ſuffer her ſelf to be confin'd in a Monaſtery, ordain'd only for Women of ill Reputation. There

was

was then no remedy, but in all the haſte imaginable, to implore the Protection of Queen *Chriſtina*. She did it, and this Generous Princeſs, who had a great value for her, becauſe ſhe had heard her Sing often, not only permitted her a Refuge in her Quarter, but took her into her Service, with a Siſter of hers named *Barbara*, who was alſo a moſt Beautiful Virgin, but had not ſo great a faculty of Singing.

Theodon was overjoy'd that his Miſtreſs had eſcap'd ſo many and powerful Rivals, and it gave him courage to continue his Purſuit. To this end, he addreſs'd himſelf to one of the Queen's *Valet de Chambres*, who was his Friend, to get a ſight of her, and eaſily obtain'd his Requeſt. But as Lovers are never contented, *Theodon* importun'd him ſo much, that he promis'd him, that he ſhould come to the Speech of her.

One day the Queen kept an Academy of Muſick in her Garden, and there was a great many Ladies, Knights and Gentlemen, under the ſhady Grove, where was a fine breeze of Air: *Angelica*, when ſhe had ſung her Roll, ſlipt down an Alley with her Siſter, and entred into a

little Banquetting-House, where *Theodon* had made a magnificent Collation to present her with in his Friend's Company, of the best Wines that were to be had. It was about the time that the Song of *Flon, Flon*, was in request; and the Trumpets of the Marquis *de Lavardin*, being posted upon a little Hill in the same Garden, sounded the same Tune. The Eccho's repeated the last Words; All the World Sung it, and the Queen her self sung *Flon, Flon*. The Joy was universal, and the Wine made our Lovers become Poets; For after they had drank plentifully, they propos'd to make every one a Couplet to this new Air, and *Angelica* taking her *Guitarre*, began, and did it very well for an Extempory Effort, and was follow'd by *Theodon*'s Friend. A thousand fits of Laughter accompanied the Musick, insomuch, that others of the Queen's Maids walking in the Garden, were drawn thither by the Noise. They presented them Fruits, and they sat down on *Angelica*'s side, and drank their Healths over and over, and the Sport lasted till almost Night, when a Foorman came

came to give her notice, that she must wait upon the Queen, the Company being now gone. She broke off therefore this sweet Conversation, but with Violence to her self, and promis'd to see him again as often as she could.

But this happy Season did not last long; for a little after the Queen fell Sick, and so all sorts of Divertisements ended. This Sickness was fatal to *Angelica*, for her own Mother deliver'd her up to be Dishonour'd by an infamous wretch in the Queen's Palace. It was to the Abbot *Vannini*, (whom I have mention'd before) the same that abus'd *Signora Giovannini*, and was the cause of her Death. This Prelate, who was ambitious to make himself Talk'd of, had gain'd *Signora Caterina*, with a Present of Silver, of above the value of a thousand Crowns; *Angelica* having all sorts of Liberty of going out with her Mother; was carried to walk among Women, where she always met the Abbot *Vannini*, who perpetually courted her, but to no purpose; For she was extreamly angry, that her own Mother should so often expose her to the Outrages of this rash Man, insomuch, that

that ſhe proteſted, ſhe would no more go out of her Majeſty's Palace, whoſe Sickneſs encreas'd daily, and at the ſame time, the Fears of the Houſe.

The Abbot, notwithſtanding all the Diſdain of *Angelica*, was neither aſham'd, nor dejected, but thought to obtain that by Preſents and Importunity which he could not by Perſonal Merit; but he advanc'd nothing at all that way; for all his Preſents were rejected, and his Sighs deſpis'd.

At laſt being provok'd by ſuch a Reſiſtance as he expected not to find, he undertook one of the raſheſt and moſt dangerous Actions that could fall into the Imagination, of ſo contemptible a Perſon as himſelf, which was to do Violence to the Honour of *Angelica*, even in the Palace of the Queen her ſelf. To this end and purpoſe he gain'd a *Neapolitan*, who was one of the Queens *Valet de Chambres*, with his Brother an Anſpaſſade, and they brought him privately into *Angelica*'s Chamber, with the conſent of her Mother. *Angelica* was then with the Queen, ſcarcely ever forſaking her, becauſe her Sickneſs was very dangerous; But coming into her Chamber by

by chance to do ſomething, ſhe was extreamly ſurpriz'd to find a great Collation, and the Abbot *Vannini*, who invited her to eat, with her Mother, and thoſe honeſt People, that were of the Plot. But ſhe, ſeeing her ſelf Betray'd by her Mother, was perfectly Aſtoniſh'd, and ſet up a great Cry. The Abbot threw himſelf upon his Knees, and endeavour'd to aſſure her, by good Words, but in the mean time they all ſlipt out of the Chamber, and left them alone, and one may eaſily imagin that the Abbot being Maſter, did not looſe time. The Chamber was ſo high that *Angelica*'s Cries could not be hear'd; but there was other Signs of the reſiſtance of this Generous young Woman, for the Table and Chairs were all overturn'd, and at laſt ſo great a noiſe was made, her (Chamber being juſt over the Queen's) that her Majeſty complain'd they had loſt their Reſpect.

One of the Gentlemen run up and ſaw this fine Farce, and cry'd out for help to ſome *Anſpeſſades* and Foot men, who were upon the Guard. Her Friend *Theodon* ran up at the Noiſe, and ſhe Embracing him, begg'd that he would have

Compaſſion of her; He preſently took him by the Throat, and would have Strangl'd him, if he had not been forced out of his hands. They then ſent to ſeek out Monſieur *Pompey Azzolini*, the Cardinal's Nephew, to know what they muſt do with this impudent Perſon. His firſt thought was, that he ſhould be hewed in Pieces; and in ſo doing, he had followed the Queen's Genius, and highly reveng'd the Injury done to her Majeſty. But conſidering that the Queen was Sick and the Abbot well Allied, he thought it convenient, (for fear of making himſelf Enemies) to ſuffer him to Eſcape. He ſav'd himſelf at the Cardinal *D'Eſtes*, and the two *Neapolitans* Fled, and were never heard of ſince.

They told the Queen, that the noiſe came from Cats, who had overturn'd the Utenſils of the Chamber, and caus'd this Alarm.

Poor *Angelica*, after ſo bloody an Affront, abandon'd her ſelf to Deſpair, and was a long time in a Swoon, and amaz'd, not knowing what to do. Her Siſter coming up at the Noiſe, put her to bed, for the Traytreſs her Mother.

was

was as invisible as the rest, and *Angelica* was seiz'd with a Fever, and sick of Grief for a long time?

In the mean time, the Queen began to be better, and all People rejoyc'd for her Recovery. For she was well Belov'd in *Rome*, because she gave much in Charity towards the Subsistance of the Poor, and Maintain'd a great many People. The Nation of the *Marca d' Ancona*, made a fine Feast at the Church of St. *Saviour du Lauvier*, in honour of the Queen, and fine Illuminations in the Street of *Coronari*, which is near it, with Bonfires and other Rejoicings of Drums and Trumpets.

Count *Alibert* also made a very Magnificent Feast at *Jesus*, where a Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin, was Sung in a Thanksgiving for the Queen's Health, and he had the most excellent Musicians in *Rome*, and the Church was hang'd with the richest Tapistry her Majesty had, and all People crowded in to testifie their joy. But at last she perceiv'd that *Angelica* fail'd in her Duty, and asked for her very often, but they always told her she was Sick.

Cardinal *Azzolini* had forbidden any body to ſpeak of this Scandal which had happened in the Queen's Palace. But a certain Woman who help'd *Bandiere* in his Operations of Chymiſtry, whom they call'd *Sybil*, for the reaſons we ſhall afterwards mention, told the Queen either by Accident, or out of Malice, that *Angelica* was Well. The Queen ſent preſently to call her in all haſte, and the poor Girl being frighted, becauſe ſhe was forc'd to appear before her, whom ſhe believ'd to be inform'd of all the Affair, caſt her ſelf at her Feet, pouring out abundance of Tears, and could not ſpeak for Grief. The Queen preſs'd her to tell the reaſon of her Tears, and ſhe anſwer'd, that her Misfortune was but too publick. Her Majeſty order'd her to Explain her ſelf; but Sobs interrupted her every Moment; and therefore the Queen deſir'd Cardinal *Azzolini* who was then come to her, to inform her of all the Affair *Azzolini* being troubled at the unſeaſonableneſs of the time, palliated the Matter, and told her only what he thought convenient to diſcover, for fear ſhe ſhould fall into an exceſſive Paſſion, which might make her relapſe.

But

But this did not satisfie her, for she saw well enough, that he hid the greatest part of the Circumstances from her, and therefore could not be quiet till she had learn'd the whole Story from her Domesticks, by Questions and Threatning. What he had foreseen, fell out, for the Queen presently fell into an horrible Passion against this infamous Abbot, and against all those that suffer'd him to Escape. After she had comforted *Angelica*, about the Disgrace she was no way guilty of, sent for Captain *Merula* her Bravo, and commanded him to bring her the Head of the Abbot *Vannini*, and to observe him so narrowly, that he did not Escape; and because she would be sure of her Blow, she order'd what Men and Money he had need of, promising him a good Reward and protection against all his Enemies.

It is not known whether this Assassin by Profession, did himself discover her Orders, or that it came to be known some other way; But *Vannini* fled from *Rome*, to *Subjacco* an Abbey of Cardinal *Charles Barberini* in one of his Eminence's Coaches, but absconded often by the way, and at last when he came there,

look'd more like Dead, than Alive, ſo true it is, that Vice is its own Executioner. He paſs'd from thence into *Abruzzo*, a Province of the Realm of *Naples*, where he remain'd till the Queen's Death. In the mean time, *Merula* ſought him every where, or pretended ſo to do; for 'tis believ'd, that the two Cardinals who were the Abbot's Protectors, preſented him with a thouſand Crowns, to hold his Hand. Beſides that, he might fear their reſentment if the Queen ſhould Die quickly, of which there was great likelyhood. The Queen being impatient, often demanded from *Merula* the effects of his Promiſes. But one day he own'd, without thinking on't, that the Criminal had ſcap'd out of his Hands, and had refug'd himſelf within the Realm of *Naples*. At theſe words, the Queen was in ſuch a Rage, that ſhe Scratch'd him in the Face, and gave him twenty blows with her Fiſt, reproaching him with Perfidiouſneſs, and had certainly Strangled him, if ſhe had not wanted Strength. But ſhe kill'd her ſelf in the Effort which ſhe made; for this Agitation brought her Feaver on her again, and ſent her into her Grave

in

in a little time, to the great damage of the Domesticks, for whom she had no time to provide.

No body got more by her Death than *Angelica*; For if the Queen had liv'd a a little longer, she had been confin'd in a Convent all her Life, as Scandalous, though she had more misfortune, than fault in her Conduct. For the Queen had promis'd the Pope (who was irritated by the frequent Stories brought him concerning her) that she would put her among the Religious of St. *Ruffinus* in *Trastevera*.

The best way *Angelica* could take in this unhappy Conjuncture, was to put her self under the Protection of the Duke of *Medina Celi*, Ambassador of *Spain*; And he came to take her at the Queen's Palace Gate, just as she was Expiring, before they had forc'd her into a Convent. He plac'd her under the Dutchess his Lady, where she lives yet at this present time, in Quality of her first Lady of Honour, being equally dear both to the Husband and the Wife, who know very well, by long Experience, that she has given no occasion for those false Reports, which have almost

moſt tarniſh'd her Reputation; and that her Merit only has been the cauſe of all her Perſecutions. There run a Report, that Monſieur the Ambaſſador, had Married her to a Spaniſh Gentleman in his Service; but it is not true, for ſhe is not yet engag'd in that Sacrament, no more than her Siſter *Barbara*, who is alſo Maid of Honour to Madam the Ambaſſadreſs of *Spain*.

The Sieur *Theodon* being convinc'd, that *Angelica* was not ordain'd for him, has Married another, who has neither the Gifts nor Reputation of *Angelica*, yet notwithſtanding is not inferior to her in Wiſdom. She brought him a conſiderable Portion, and he lives with her like an honeſt Man, and has obtain'd by Merit, to be Director of the Works of Architecture, and Painting of the Baſilique of St. *Peter* at the *Vatican*, which is very Gainful.

We muſt not forget, before we finiſh this Hiſtory, that the Duke of *Mantua* made another Voyage to *Rome incognito*, towards the end of the Queen's laſt Sickneſs, (and as the common Vogue goes) to carry away *Angelica*, with her Mother's Conſent; but being prevented by

by the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador, he was ſo angry, that he had been twice cheated by that Intereſted Woman, that he ſlit both her Husband's, and afterwards her Son's Noſe, who is a Glaſier, and keeps a Shop in the *Bouchi*. They are ſo disfigured, that they will carry the Marks, as long as they live; which will teſtifie to all the World, that *Georgina* having Perfections enough to Charm many Princes, and great Lords, had not yet the happineſs to pleaſe them all.

The Queen had ſome Pre-ſentiments of her Death, which made her apprehenſive, ſhe ſhould not live long. Six Months before her Sickneſs, or thereabout, ſhe made her a Habit of Sattin, white Ground, ſtitch'd with Flowers, and other works of Gold, garniſh'd with Lace, and Buttons ſet in Gold, and Fringe of the ſame below. This Habit was Invented by her ſelf, and ſerv'd for a *Manteau* and Body together. It was cloſe before, without a Tail, and round at the bottom, and the Queen tried it on upon *Chriſtmas* Eve, and took many turns in her Cloſet, without ſpeaking a Word: She look'd upon her ſelf often, both before and behind, in a couple of

Looking-

Looking-glaſſes, which were ſet oppoſite one to another, and then walked again, in profound Silence. Her Taylor, who thought he had done better than ordinary, rejoic'd within himſelf; And there was none but him, the Marquiſs *Caponi*, and two Maids there, when *Sybil* entred. This *Sybil* was a Woman well skill'd in Chymical Operations, and had ſerved the Queen for ſome time. Cardinal *Azzolini* brought her in to counter-check *Bandiere*. Her Name was *Julia*, and ſhe was Daughter to an Apothecary, a good Simpler, who taught her his Trade, which ſhe improv'd, by the Invention of a certain number of fine Secrets. She had ſomething Marvelous in her Perſon, and her Birth was Extraordinary. For when her Mother Lay in of her, which was upon the 3*d.* of *November*, 1665, ſhe was ſeven Hours in Travel, with great Pains, and was not Deliver'd, but by an horrible Clap of Thunder: The Lightning that accompanied it, made her Chamber ſeem all on Fire; and the Fright made ſuch an Impreſſion upon her, that it threw out the Child.

Her

Her Sex was doubtful at firſt, and though time made it appear ſhe was a Girl, yet ſhe always had the inclinations of Men, flying Girls Company, and ſeeking after Boys; She would throw Stones as they did, and fight with her Fiſts, and ſhewed a Maſculine Spirit in all things. She learn'd Latin, and made a a great Progreſs not only in Pharmacy, but Chymiſtry; beſides this, ſhe touch'd Inſtruments well. But ſhe had yet a Quality beyond theſe, which pleas'd the Queen better than all, which was that of the foretelling of things to come, and for this reaſon, the Queen gave her the name of *Sybil*. I have been inform'd, ſhe had once an Husband a Diſtiller, but he died after he had been Married about ſix Months.

The Queen, who was fooliſh in the belief of all vain and curious Sciences, as *Chymiſtry*, *Aſtrology*, the *Divining-Rod*, and loved thoſe who pretended to poſſeſs them believ'd all that Aſtrologers ſaid, and particularly the Abbot *Maſſoni*, who us'd to flatter her with the promiſe of living Fourſcore Years, and by theſe deceitful hopes, he drew a good deal of Money from this credulous Princeſs, and afterwards Laugh'd at her.

I could tell you a great many Stories of this nature, if this Book were not too big already.

Sybil coming to congratulate the Queen upon her fine Garment, exaggerated the fineneſs of the Stuff, its Beauty and Faſhion, which very well ſuited her Majeſty's Perſon.

Well, *Sybil*, (ſays the Queen) does this Habit pleaſe you?

Yes, Madam, (repled ſhe) it is perfectly well made.

Upon this, the Marquiſs *Caponi* took up the Diſcourſe, and ſaid, you are come very luckily, for we are here acting the Comedy of the Mutes.

It is true, ſays the Queen, that no body has ſaid any thing, nor I my ſelf, but this Habit which you ſee, makes me think of ſome things of great Conſequence, and I believeit will ſerve me in a little time, in one of the greateſt Functions that can be; but *Sybil*, thou art not able to Divine what Function this ſhould be.

Pardon me, Madam, (anſwer'd ſhe) looking attentively on the Queen, your Majeſty thinks this Habit will ſerve; Shall I ſpeak it, Madam?

Yes,

Yes, ſaith the Queen.

The thought afflicts me, ſaith *Sybil*, Your Majeſty thinks, you ſhall be Buried in this Habit in a little time.

And I, ſaith the Marquiſs, interrupting haſtily, believe the Queen thinks it will ſerve her to wiſh the Pope an happy New Year in.

Sybil has ſpoke the Truth, replied the Queen, that was it I thought on, but we muſt put all into the Hand of God, for we are all Mortal, and I as well as another.

The Taylor, to divert this ſorrowful Diſcourſe, addreſſing himſelf to the Queen, ſaid,

Will your Majeſty have a Cover made for this Habit?

Why a Cover, great Beaſt, ſays the Queen?

To keep it twenty Years, and above, ſaith the Taylor; For if it be deſign'd for the uſe your Majeſty ſpeaks, you muſt take care the Worms do not eat it.

She fell a Laughing, and was well pleas'd with the Repartee. After ſome Diſcourſe of this nature, they ſeparated, and the Marquiſs grumbled at *Sybil*, for her ill Augury.

You miſtake, quoth *Sybil*, I have not foretold the Queen's Death, I only found out her Thought.

This odd Apprehenſion did ſo poſſeſs the Queen's Mind, that the Taylor Congratulating her upon the recovery of her Health, as others did, ſaid,

Madam, the Habit is the Cover, and may, if it pleaſe God, be ſo a long time.

God grant it, ſays the Queen, but I am of Opinion it will ſerve me ere long for the uſe I believe 'tis deſign'd.

This thought made too ſtrong an Impreſſion upon her Spirits, to believe the *Sybil* Divin'd it meerly by chance.

It is ſtrange, ſays the Marquiſs *Caponi*, your Majeſty ſhould think ſo much upon the words of a Fool; And will your Majeſty be always abus'd?

Cardinal *Azzolini* coming in, he deſir'd him to aſſiſt, to take off the ill Impreſſions the Queen had receiv'd; which he endeavouring to do, the Queen ſeem'd to believe, only for this reaſon, that he might no farther trouble her Head about it.

The Cardinal meeting the *Sybil* afterwards, gave her a ſmart Reprimand, for entertaining the Queen with Melancholy

ly Viſions. But ſhe excus'd her ſelf, That ſhe had done nothing with an ill intent; That ſhe wiſh'd not the Queen's Death, for her own ſake; for, ſaid ſhe, there will no body looſe more than my ſelf, for I foreſee the Croſſes and Perſecutions that will happen to me. God preſerve us, for your Eminence will not be long after the Queen, when God ſhall call her.

Azzolini, who heard the firſt words of the *Sybil*, without Emotion, was troubled at the laſt, and turn'd his Back all in Confuſion.

She repented that ſhe had ſaid ſo much, for her Predictions were but too true, whether it were that ſhe was effectually Inſpir'd from Heaven, or Chance and Conjecture, that made her to advance things, I know not, but the Event confirm'd them.

She had alſo told the Queen, that the Pope would die the ſame Year, in the Canicular days, and he Deceas'd the 13th of *Auguſt* next following.

He was inform'd of theſe Predictions of the *Sybil*, and was ſo diſpleas'd, that as ſoon as ever the Queen's Eyes were clos'd, he caus'd her to be taken up,

and

and Impriſoned in the Caſtle of St. *Angelo*, where ſhe remain'd till her dying-day.

She ſaid ſomething alſo of *Alexander* VIII. but he changed her Priſon into a Conſervatory, where ſhe conſum'd and pin'd away for Grief.

At a time when the Queen did not think of Death, ſhe had a mind to Beſpeak a magnificent Tomb. She ſent for her Graver, called *Francis Marie Ancomitano*, and order'd divers Models, without telling him of any Place where it ſhould be ſet up. The Graver being buſie, and not having his Meaſures ready to extend his Figures and Bas Reliefs there, the Queen was forc'd to tell him ſhe would have it made round, like the Pantheon of *Agrippa* in old time. At the ſame time ſhe forbad him to ſpeak a Syllable to any Perſon about it, but above all, enjoyn'd him, that Cardinal *Azzolini* ſhould know nothing of it. However, the thing was ſo long in Agitation, that Cardinal *Azzolini* came to know of it, and was affrighted at the vaſt Expence of bringing it to Perfection, but however durſt ſay nothing of it to the Queen.

This

This had pleaſant Conſequences, for when the Intrigue came to be known, the Graver was turn'd off, though he repreſented to her Majeſty, that he could not make his Models with ſo much caution, but that Cardinal *Azzolini* might get an inkling of it.

The Queen having ask'd him, what the Expence of the whole might amount to, he told her ingenuouſly, that an hundred thouſand Crowns would not finiſh it.

You're a Rogue, ſaid ſhe to him, an hundred thouſand Crowns, I would ſpend a Milion upon't. The Cardinal hearing this, fell a Laughing, knowing that all her Eſtate, did not amount to half a Million. And after all, ſhe was poorly Interr'd in a Cave of the *Sacraſty* of St. *Peter*.

This ſhews the Genius of the Queen, who would do every thing extraordinary; and with the Magnificence due to her Character.

But finally, it muſt be ſaid in Praiſe of this Generous Princeſs, that ſhe died with an Intrepidity worthy of the Daughter of the Great *Guſtavus Adolphus*.

Her

Her Relapſe having taken from her all hope of Cure, ſhe very early took care of her Soul; She Confeſs'd with great Sentiments of Contrition; and receiv'd the Holy Sacrament with profound reſpect, and unſpeakable Comfort. Finding her Strength to diminiſh, ſhe ſent to deſire the Pope's Benediction; praying him to forgive all the Differences, that had been between them, which yet had not hinder'd her from being inviolably fixt to the Intereſts of the Holy See; and that ſhe had always a great reſpect and eſteem for the Perſon of *Innocent* 11th.

Afterwards, ſhe Sign'd her laſt Will and Teſtament, and preſented it to Cardinal *Azzolini*, which he told her, was advantagious to her Majeſty's Houſhold, though he made it only according to his own Intereſt.

Father *Sclavata*, a famous Diſcalceat *Bohemian Carmelite*, exhorted her to prepare for Death; ſometimes ſpeaking Latin, and ſometimes German, or French.

At laſt the Queen Died, *April* 19th. 1689, at Six of the Clock in the Morning; and her Body was carried next day

day, towards Night, to the New Church of the Fathers of the Oratory of St. *Philip Neri*, being Embalm'd and Cloath'd in the ſame Habit, which was deſign'd for her Funeral Solemnity. It was carried in a Coach, accompanied by the Cardinals Chaplains, and the Curate of St. *Dorothy*'s Pariſh.

The day following, the Queens Body was expos'd upon a Bed of Parade, with a Royal Crown upon her Head, and a Scepter in her Hand, in the Body of the Church, and round about her 300 Flambeaux of white Wax. The Church was hung with Mourning, with Eſcutcheons of her Majeſties Arms, and with Counterfeit Bas-reliefs of Black Marble, which alluded to the Vanity of Life, and certainty of Death.

Her Obſequies were very Magnificent, and the whole Colledge of Cardinals aſſiſted, and *Azzolini* appear'd in deepeſt Mourning, with the greateſt Lowlineſs and Dejection. Towards Night, the Queen's Body was tranſported upon the ſame Bed of Parade, with her Face diſcover'd, to the Church of St. *Peter*, at the *Vatican*, the Con-fraternities of the Regular and Secular Clergy, the Canons

of

of St. *Peter*, and her Domesticks in Mourning, going before; The Counts of *Warwick*, *Vasenau*, and two other Lords of Note, holding the four Corners of the Pall. The Pope accompanied the Body, by the Officers of the *Papal House*, as is done when the Dean of the Cardinals, and the Ambassadors of Crowned Heads die at *Rome*.

She was Inhumed in the *Sacristi* of St. *Peter*'s, an Honour done to no body but Cardinals, and Arch-priests of St. *Peter*; for in the Church it self, none are Interred, but Popes only. And 'tis said, that the Pope would have erected a magnificent Tomb for her, if he had liv'd any time longer.

Thus did Queen *Christina Alexandra* of *Sueden*, testifie all along more Firmness and Grandeur of Soul at her Death, than she had shewed Constancy in her Life: Her Inequalities, Ambition, and vain Occupations, had much diminish'd the Esteem whith the Publick had of her Magnanimity. She always loved Change except in Religion, which when once she had found to be true, she embrac'd it so firmly, that nothing could Separate her. In all other things, she shew'd her

her self a true Woman, that is to say changeable. She affected to pass for a Maid, and the word Woman offended her horribly. So that for fear of Offending her, you must say for Example, *Your Majesty has most excellent Maiden-hair, and not Woman's*; and so of the rest.

She had Eloquence, Spoke well, and Wrote better, even in many Languages; but above all in *French* and *Italian*. The Learned do yet admire her Letters to the King of *Poland*, upon the raising the Siege of *Vienna*, and the Battle of *Barcan*, to the Chevalier *Terlon*, upon the revocation of the Edict of *Nantes*, and to Cardinal *Azzolini*, upon the retrenchment of the Pope's Pension, and others.

One day hearing of the Death of *Casimir* King of *Poland*, in the Abby of St. *Germain de Pre*, at *Paris*. She said, *I am very glad to hear that he is Dead among Men, for if he had staid in his own Country, he had died among Beasts.*

She lov'd neither Bigots in Religion, nor Atheists. She had a true regard to Piety, though in her Youth, the Abbot *Bourdelot* and other Libertines, shook

her Religion. She participated of the Holy Sacraments, and after she understood the Impostures of *Molinos*, who would have Seduc'd her, she was the more confirmed in the true Faith. She trok care that her Domesticks should practice all the Duties Religion requires, and go to the Communion in general three times a Year, as the Cardinal did. She heard *Mass* every day, unless some Indisposition hinder'd her; and sometimes she had so tender a sense in Religion, that one could not wish more even in a Capucin. One day looking upon the Picture of the Great *Gustavus* her Father, she said, *Ah poor* Gustavus! *What great things hast thou done in thy Life! But what hast thou done for thy Soul? I thank God for his favour in making me to understand the Truth, and causing me to enter into the good way of Salvation.*

She said, that of all the Sacraments, she held that of Confession to be the most useful. That in truth the *Lutherans* did practice it, though not in Form, and that a good Confession was the Bridle of Vice.

One

One day as she went to an Audience of the Pope, she said to the Women which Dress'd her, *Cover my Breasts well, for fear* Mingon *should be angry.* For he stood upon the most minute things, which are so much the more indecent, in that they are not Evils he rebukes.

To what purpose should the Women of the World, wear the Habit of *Begnines*? Put them under what Habit you will, they will always find some agreement to please the Men.

Another time when she went to the Pope, to shew her Obedience, she dress'd her self and all the Ladies of her Court, in a sort of a Robe which they call *Innocentian*, being long Vests which trail upon the Ground, close before, and strait Sleeves which come as far as the Wrists, and so close at the Neck, you could scarce see her Collar of Pearl. To this fine Habit, she likewise added some few knots of Ribbands. None of her Women could hardly forbear Laughing. But other *Roman* Ladies Laugh'd at them outright, and said, The Queen might make as many Apes as she pleas'd, but she should not

not make them Monkies, by imitating her Fashion.

This Princess hated, or pretended to hate Marriage; insomuch, that at her first coming to *Rome*, she could not endure any Married People in her Service. When *Landini* was big with Child, she would not see her, and if she had occasion for her, she would say, *Bring the Cow hither*, and send her away again as soon as she has done.

When she had made the Marriage of *Beauregard*, she said to the Husband, *God send thee the Signs of the Zodiack*; and to you *Beauregard*, (says she to the Woman) *If you come to shew like a Cow, do not come to see me in that condition.*

But she was quite otherwise in regard of the Marquis *Caponi*, for she would cause his first Child to be brought to her, Cares it, and sometimes hold it in her Arms; and when the little Child began to go, and came to the Table to Embrace her Feet, she would fill his little Apron with Fruits and Comfitures.

Though she was a huge Eater, as the *Northern* People are, she drank al-

most

moſt no Wine. She lov'd rather Colliflowers, or boil'd Cheſtnuts with her Maids, for which ſhe would ſlip into their Chambers on purpoſe, rather than eat the delicate Morſels which were prepar'd for her with royal Magnificence. The Sieur *Romulus Spoziola*, her Phyſician, Remonſtrating to her, that it was not good for her Health, ſhe call'd him Drunkard and Beaſt, and ſaid he knew no more than her Cap.

Her Taylor trying on a Coat one day when ſhe had been let Blood, prayed her not to force her Arm; but ſhe gave him a Box on the Ear, with the ſame Hand, which fill'd the poor Advice-monger with Confuſion.

She was often at Difference with the Ambaſſador *D'Eſtrees*; But as ſhe had no Gall, ſhe was very glad to make Peace with him. One day as he was at the Vineyard of *Pamphilio*, ſhe coming thither by chance, and perceiving him there, ran to him and made him an hundred Civilities, inſomuch that ſhe mounted a little Horſe of Monſieur the Ambaſſador, and made him turn and Prance in his Preſence, above half an Hour, with a very good Grace.

Another time as ſhe was driving a Calaſh in the Alley's of her Garden, ſhe asked one of the Ambaſſador's Domeſticks, that ſhe found there by chance, whether ſte did not Drive well? He told her, that there was no body but her ſelf and the King of *France* that knew how to drive a Coach well. She was ſtung with this Anſwer, and run like a Fool up and down the Field: But the Calaſh Overturn'd, and her Majeſty came to the Ground with her Coats upwards, and cried out for Help. And becauſe no Man durſt come near her in this condition, ſhe Laugh'd at their fooliſh Shame, ſaying, *I am not ſorry I am ſeen by this Accident, to the end it may be known that I am neither Male nor Hermophrodite, as ſome People in the World have paſs'd me for.*

As the Queen had an infinite deal of Wit, ſhe believ'd therefore that ſhe ought to have a proportionable Prudence and Policy; but ſhe took little care to ſhew it, and would not take the trouble upon her to be ſo much upon her Guard, as to make a decent appearance.

She

She freely follow'd her own Genius in all things, and car'd not what any body ſaid. She maintain'd all her Life an Emulation and ſecret Envy againſt the King and *French* Nation, though otherwiſe ſhe infinitely eſteem'd that Monarch, and took him for the Model of her Conduct, ſaying, She would make a little Queen of *France* in *Rome*; yet ſhe let ſlip no opportunity to ſpeak evil of the *French* Nation, either to leſſen their Advantages, or magnifie their Faults.

'Twas in in this mind, that being one Night at a Comedy at the Theatre *Tour de None*, in Company with the Cardinals *Roſpiglioſi*, and *Altieri*. She ſaid to the firſt, *Is it true then that the Army of Marſhal* Turenne *is entirely Defeated in Germany.*

I know not Madam, (anwer'd *Roſpiglioſi* coldly, but we have this Night a new Muſician in the *Opera* will advance the luſtre of the Theatre; Tis *Fede*, who knows ſo well how to Charm the Ear, that your Majeſty will not be uneaſie to hear the Singing, as you were Yeſter-night. This enrag'd the Queen, who turn'd her Back upon him, to

ſpeak

ſpeak to Cardinal *Altieri*, concerning the Conſequences of this pretended Defeat, asking him if General *Montecuculi* would find reſiſtance, if he Sack'd all, even as far as *Paris*? He anſwer'd, That he had never been in War, and that he did not know how the matter would go. She then ſpoke to him againſt Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*, with whom he had ſome Miſunderſtanding. But as *Altieri* was a refin'd Polititian, who knew how to hide his Sentiments, for fear of prejudicing his Intereſts, turn'd off the Diſcourſe with ſuch a preſence of Mind, that the Queen could draw no Advantage againſt *D'Eſtrees*, with whom ſhe would fall out, and was Reconciled as often, and had occaſion to make uſe of him at that preſent.

After the Queen's Death, Cardinal *Azzolini* was very willing to be reconciled, and enter into the favour of Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*; but he liv'd ſo little a time after, that he had not leiſure. However it is certain, it was not long of him, and to prove this, I will inſert here a Letter, written to me from *Leghorn*, from the ſame Perſon, who ſent me a Relation touching the

the Affair of the Quarters. See here the Contents.

I ſhould fear the Relation would want ſomething, If I ſhould not inform you of the laſt Sentiments of Monſieur Cardinal *Azzolini*, for Monſieur Cardinal *E'Eſtrees*. Some time be fore the Death of Queen *Chriſtina*, Monſieur Cardinal *Azzolini* ſent for me, and ſaid.

"MY little Compere (for he had "done me the Honour to be "Godfather to my Child) I would "communicate to to you an Affair of "greateſt Importance. 'Tis believ'd, "that I have been an Enemy to the "Crown of *France*. It was never true, "for I eſteem my King as much as any "of his Subjects. I ſay, my King, "for I have always had a ſtrong Af-"fection for this great Monarch. And "many of my Letters ſhew, that this "Diſgrace has happen'd to me from "being too much engag'd in the Queens "Intereſts. And notwithſtanding the "Differences I have had with Mon-"ſieur Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*, I am his "Servant and Friend. In ſhort, my

" Compere, the Queen is Dead, and " has made me her Heir, as you know " very well. She has left me very pre- " cious things of all ſorts, and there " is none but my King to whom theſe " things deſerve to be Preſented. And " know that no Intereſt moves me to " do this; I contend only for the " Honour, that he would accept theſe " Teſtimonies of my good Will.

But *Monſigneur*, ſaid to him, If you will permit me to ſpeak my Thoughts to your Eminence; I do not believe the King will accept theſe things as a pure Gift.

" All the World knows, (Anſwer'd " he, that the King of *France*, is the " moſt Generous of all Princes, but " we do not act with Kings as we " do with Merchants; All that I wiſh " is, that he will do me the Honour " to accept them. You are a good " *Frenchman*, and have a love for your " Country; I have known you a long " time, and I confide in you, becauſe " I am perſwaded I ſhall find you Faith- " ful. You know I have opened my " Deſign to Monſieur *Alibert*, and he " would be overjoy'd to have it done by

" by his Means. But ſome Reaſons " oblige me to Prefer you. You have " ſome Acquaintance with Monſieur " Cardinal *D'Eſtrees*. Endeavour to " inſinuate to his Eminence, as from " your ſelf, that he ought not to let " this occaſion ſlip; and that if he will " undertake it, he ſhall be Maſter of " all. I know your Conduct in Af- " fairs, and it will make your For- " tunes, if you bring this about.

After ſo fair an Inſtruction, I took leave of his Eminence, and the ſame day, I made it my buſineſs to ſee the Cardinal, under pretence of thanking him for the Protection he had generouſly given me, upon the occaſion of a Quarrel I had with a *Swede*, who had ſpoken ill things of the Queen. The Diſcourſe fell afterwards inſenſibly upon the fine Moveables the Queen had left to Cardinal *Azzolini*: And I Remonſtrated to his Eminence, that the Medals and Manuſcripts of her Majeſty, and above all, the Pictures of *Paul Varoneſe* and *Cortege*, were Originals of an ineſtimable Value, and fit to be preſented to the King.

Monſieur

Monſieur the Cardinal was of the ſame mind; and I told him in few words the Intentions of Cardinal *Azzolini*, giving him an Account of the Converſation I had with him. His Eminence took it well that I had freely diſcovered the Truth to him, and order'd me to ſee the Cardinal often, and to tell him directly, that he himſelf was in the fault, if the Rarities of the Queen's Palace did not come into the King's Hands; and that aſſuredly he would looſe nothing by it.

Two days after I went to Cardinal *Azzolini*, and gave him an account of my Negotiation, aſſuring him, that Cardinal *D'Eſtrees* had writ to Court about it. He was then Indiſpos'd and in Bed, but ſhew'd a great deal of Joy that I had begun ſo well, and giving me his Hand, which I reſpectfully Kiſſing, he promis'd me he would not be Ungrateful, if the Affair ſucceeded. I was perfectly overjoy'd and fill'd with the fineſt Hopes in the World, but they quickly vaniſh'd, for the Sickneſs of this poor Lord did ſo encreaſe, that there was no ſpeaking with him. However, I did not ſtir from his Palace,

lace, and gave an exact account of his Sickness to Cardinal *D'Estrees*.

The same day that Cardinal *Azzolini* was given over by his Physicians; his Eminence went himself to know the State of his Health, just at Twelve a Clock, and came thither from the Congregation of the holy Office. It was in *June*, and in the hottest time of the day, which made me think 'twas out of Policy, because he would not be oblig'd to go up.

Cardinal *Azzolini* being advertiz'd, that Monsieur Cardinal *D'Estrees* stop'd his Coach at the Gate, to Enquire how he did, either Rejoyc'd so much, or so well dissembled it, that his Expressions melted those that heard him. Is it possible, says he, that his Eminence should come to Visit such a poor Sick Person as my self? I shall reckon this day the happiest in all my Life, and I wish its prolongation for no other reason but to embrace so good a Lord. Desire him nevertheless not to incommode himself by coming up, for fear the great Heat should do an injury to his Health, for the preservation of which, I would Sacrifice my own.

Cardinal

Cardinal *D'Eſtrees* anſwer'd this Diſcourſe with ſuch Expreſſions as were yet more Obliging, and ſaid to his Maſter of the Chamber, all that the moſt tender Friendſhip conld think of, to perſwade a ſincere Reconciliation between two Friends, who had lived ſome time in a Miſintelligence one with another. The Maſter of the Chamber went many times up and down between them, each of their Eminencies being deſirous to have the laſt word.

If I had not been preſent at all theſe Diſcourſes, I ſhould never have believ'd it. And becauſe Diſſimulation cannot be carried ſo far in ſuch a Conjuncture, I am verily perſwaded, that it was Sincere, and that Policy had no hand in it; my ſelf being very much Edified by ſuch a Proceeding.

I am, &c.

Who

Who would ever have believ'd that a little Gentleman of *Marca d' Ancona* ſhould become Heir to the Daughter of the Great *Guſtavus Adolphus* the Terror of *Germany*: And yet it has happen'd to *Pompey Azzolini*, Nephew to the Cardinal of that Name, by which he is become Maſter of that Rich Poſſeſſion, by the greateſt Fortune in the World. If his Uncle had died before the Queen, as he died immediately after, ſhe would have diſpos'd of the Succeſſion after another manner, becauſe ſhe did not love this Nephew at all. The Cardinal put him into the number of her Majeſties Gentlemen, but it was to be a Spy upon her Conduct. And one day ſhe gave him very ill Language, becauſe he diſcover'd to his Uncle, that the Queen went out in the Night with the Marquiſs *Caponi* in a Cloſe Coach, to go to a Ball, ſtopping afterwards at Monſieur *Monfronio*'s, where ſhe ſpent the Night very Pleaſantly.

Pompey Azzolini did not quietly enjoy his Inheritance; and the ready Money went for the moſt part to pay the Charges and Legacies of the Will. The

reſt

reſt conſiſted in fine Moveables, which were bought upon Credit, by divers great Lords, who as to all appearance, will not Pay in a long time, becauſe they are above the purſuit of Juſtice. Pope *Alexander* VIII. bought the Queen's fine Library, which was ſo rich in Manuſcripst, for a piece of Bread. Don *Livio Odeſcalchi*, Nephew of *Innocent* XI. had the Cabinet of Medals, of which there was ſo fine Setts in all ſorts of Metals. The Pictures are engag'd here and there; and ſo the reſt: So that there is no great matter remains now to *Pompey Azzolini*: and ſeeing he took no Pains to get it, it is not reaſonable he ſhould enjoy alone the Spoils of ſo great a Princeſs, while her Domeſticks, who have Served her ſo long, remain in Miſery.

FINIS.